JANUARY
No. 15

STILL 52 PAGES

PLASTIC MAN

10¢

SMASHES
the alibi of
BEAU CRUMMEL!

HEY-FELLAS WHERE'S JIM?
TODAY SAT MATINEE AT 2 P.M.
AMATEUR CONTEST
SAID HE'D MEET US HERE AT THE SHOW
LET'S GO ON IN--THE SHOW'LL BE STARTING

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JIM MAJOR Dept. S3-S 230 E. Ohio St. Chicago 11, Illinois

..AND THE WINNER WILL BE CHOSEN BY YOUR APPLAUSE...
HEY! THERE'S JIM
WHAT'S HE GOING TO DO?
BOY! LISTEN TO JIM PLAY THAT HARMONICA
GOLLY! IS HE GOOD!
HE'S SURE TO WIN
CLAP
WHEE-E-E-E
..AND HERE'S THE WINNER! JIM EVANS AND HIS HARMONICA!
HOW DID YOU LEARN TO PLAY SO QUICKLY?
WHERE DID YOU GET THE HARMONICA?
I GOT IT BY MAIL WITH AN ILLUSTRATED PLAYING COURSE FROM JIM MAJOR!

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JIM MAJOR, The Harmonica Man
Dept. S3-S 230 E. Ohio St., Chicago 11, Ill.

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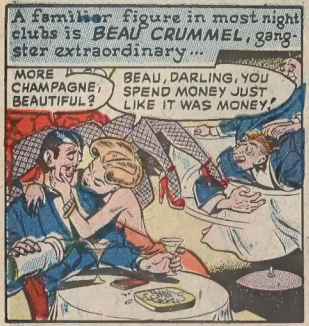
NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

CITY.....STATE.....

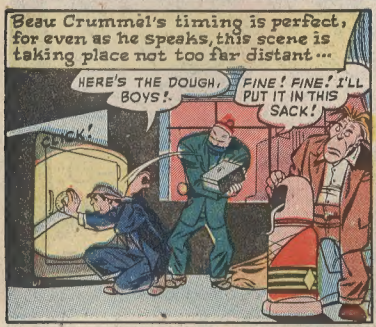
PLASTIC MAN, January, 1949, No. 15. Published bi-monthly by Comic Magazines, 6 Lord Street, Buffalo, N. Y. Executive Offices, 578 Summer Street, Stamford, Conn. E. M. Arnold, General Manager. George E. Bronner, Editor. Entered as 2nd class matter Nov. 21, 1945 at the Post Office, Buffalo, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. The characters and events pictured herein are entirely fictitious. The Publisher accepts no responsibility for unsolicited material. Editorial and Advertising Offices, 28 West 45th Street, New York 19, N. Y. Copyright 1948 by Comic Magazines. Printed in U.S.A.

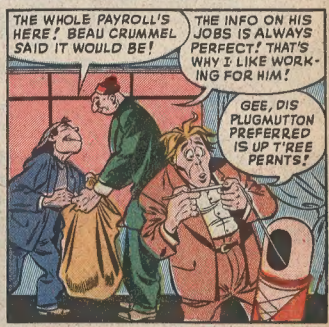
PLASTIC MAN
BEHOLD, PLASTIC MAN, A PHOTO OF YOURSELF IN TEN SHORT YEARS!
INDEED? WHO'S OPERATING THAT CAMERA WHICH PROJECTS MY FUTURE?
A camera that takes photographs of someone in the future? Sounds incredible, doesn't it? But this is what Romany Rita claimed to possess, and the photographs she took wrought great changes in the destinies of her subjects!
WOOF!


A familiar figure in most night clubs is BEAU CRUMMEL, gangster extraordinary...
MORE CHAMPAGNE, BEAUTIFUL?
BEAU, DARLING, YOU SPEND MONEY JUST LIKE IT WAS MONEY!

WHY NOT? THERE'S PLENTY MORE WHERE THIS COMES FROM! IN FACT...

...SEVERAL OF MY MINIONS ARE--AHEM ...CLOSING A VERY PROFITABLE BUSINESS DEAL FOR ME AT THIS MOMENT!


Beau Crummel's timing is perfect, for even as he speaks, this scene is taking place not too far distant...
HERE'S THE DOUGH, BOYS!
FINE! FINE! I'LL PUT IT IN THIS SACK!
CLICK!

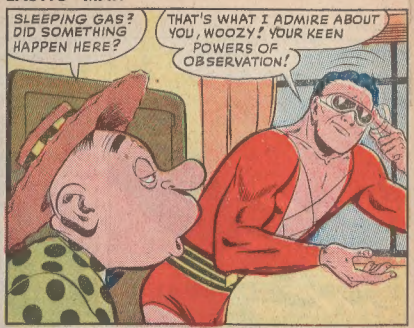

THE WHOLE PAYROLL'S HERE! BEAU CRUMMEL SAID IT WOULD BE!
THE INFO ON HIS JOBS IS ALWAYS PERFECT! THAT'S WHY I LIKE WORKING FOR HIM!
GEE, DIS PLUGMUTTON PREFERRED IS UP T'REE PERNTS!

WRONG, MY FRIEND! YOUR STOCK'S DEFINITELY GOING DOWN!
PLASTIC MAN!

KLUNK!
UHHH!

YOU REALLY SHOULD BE MORE CAREFUL WITH YOUR INVESTMENTS!
CAN'T FIGHT THAT RUBBER MENACE! BEAU CRUMMEL GAVE ME THIS TO USE IN AN EMERGENCY! AND THINGS COULDN'T BE MUCH WORSE!
I WON'T HIT YOU! I THINK I'LL JUST TAKE YOU IN ONE SWALLOW!
BITE ON THIS, PLASTIC MAN!
COUGH! COUGH! COUGH!
HE GOT A FULL DOSE! IF HE DOESN'T CHOKE TO DEATH, THE KNOCK-OUT GAS WILL KEEP HIM FROM BOTHERING ANYBODY!
TSK! TSK! PLASTIC MAN WENT INSIDE TEN MINUTES AGO TO FIND OUT WHAT THAT NOISE WAS! WHAT'S KEEPING HIM?
I'LL WAIT ANOTHER HALF HOUR, AND THEN I'LL GO INSIDE! SIGHHH! I ALMOST WISH PLASTIC MAN WOULD GET INTO TROUBLE, SO I COULD GO TO HIS RESCUE!
Half an hour later...
A FINE THING! FALLING ASLEEP IN HERE AND FORGETTING ALL ABOUT ME!
DID YOU GRAB THE LICENSE NUMBER OF THEIR GETAWAY CAR?

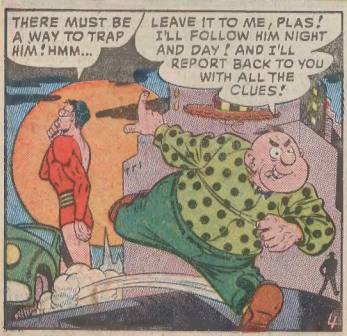
GETAWAY CAR? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
THEY USED PERFUMED SLEEPING GAS! ONLY BEAU CRUMMEL WOULD THINK OF A GADGET LIKE THAT!


SLEEPING GAS? DID SOMETHING HAPPEN HERE?
THAT'S WHAT I ADMIRE ABOUT YOU, WOOZY! YOUR KEEN POWERS OF OBSERVATION!

Soon...
THIS PLACE IS GETTING DULL! WAITER! BRING ME A CHECK!
YOUR BOYS ROBBED THE MAGDA FACTORY TONIGHT! HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN HERE?

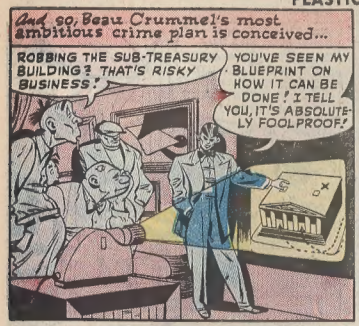
LONG ENOUGH, PLASTIC MAN! EVERYONE IN THE PLACE WILL BACK UP MY ALIBI! WHY DON'T YOU ASK THEM?
I KNOW YOU MASTER-MINDED THAT JOB, BEAU CRUMMEL! SOONER OR LATER YOU'LL SLIP UP! AND I'LL BE THERE TO PICK UP THE PIECES!

ANY LUCK, PLAS?
NONE AT ALL! BEAU CRUMMEL'S ALIBIS ARE ALWAYS AIR-TIGHT! AND HE'S TOO CAGEY TO ACTUALLY COMMIT ANY CRIMES IN PERSON! HE HIRES MEN TO DO HIS JOBS!

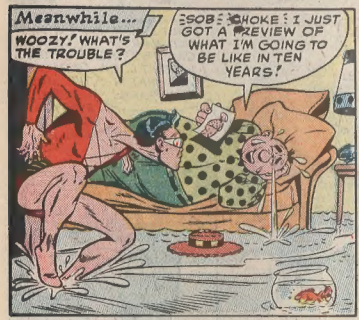

THERE MUST BE A WAY TO TRAP HIM! HMM...
LEAVE IT TO ME, PLAS! I'LL FOLLOW HIM NIGHT AND DAY! AND I'LL REPORT BACK TO YOU WITH ALL THE CLUES!
4

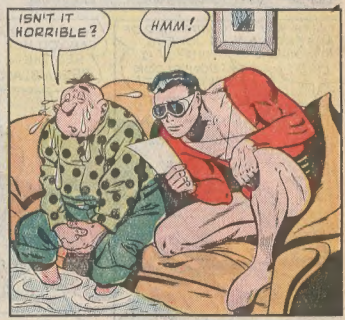
So Beau Crummel acquires a shadow! Everywhere Beau goes, Woozy also goes...
LOOKING AT HIMSELF IN A MIRROR! THAT'S THE FOURTEENTH TIME TODAY! PLAS WILL BE GLAD TO KNOW ABOUT THIS!
I WISH PLASTIC MAN'S DUMB STOOGE WOULD QUIT TAILING ME! HE'S MAKING ME NERVOUS!

HAVE YOUR PICTURE TAKEN BY ROMANY RITA'S CAMERA! SEE HOW YOU WILL LOOK TEN YEARS IN THE FUTURE! ONLY FIVE DOLLARS...
I'LL DUCK IN HERE AND GET RID OF HIM!
YOU THINK I AM FOOLING, EH? THE CAMERA DOES NOT LIE! IN ONE MINUTE I SHALL SHOW YOU YOURSELF TEN YEARS FROM TODAY!
ZIP!
THERE YOU ARE! ROMANY RITA NEVER LIES!
WHAT KIND OF A JOKE IS THIS? I--I DON'T LOOK LIKE THAT!
LOOK CLOSER! CAN YOU NOT SEE THE RESEMBLANCE?
ULP! IT IS ME!
BUT I'M AN OLD MAN! IT CAN'T BE TRUE! I WON'T LOOK LIKE THAT IN TEN YEARS!
I WISH I COULD AGREE, SIR! BUT THE CAMERA NEVER LIES! EVERYONE KNOWS THAT!
WHAT'LL I DO? IF I'M GOING TO BE AN OLD MAN SO SOON, I MIGHT AS WELL HAVE FUN AS LONG AS I'M STILL YOUNG!
ENJOY LIFE TO THE HILT WHILE I CAN... THAT'S THE ANSWER! BUT TO DO THAT I'LL NEED MONEY! MORE MONEY THAN I'VE EVER DREAMED OF BEFORE!


And so, Beau Crummel's most ambitious crime plan is conceived...
ROBBING THE SUB-TREASURY BUILDING? THAT'S RISKY BUSINESS!
YOU'VE SEEN MY BLUEPRINT ON HOW IT CAN BE DONE! I TELL YOU, IT'S ABSOLUTELY FOOLPROOF!

IT'S TOO BIG A JOB FOR US TO HANDLE ALONE! WE'LL CHANCE IT, IF YOU'RE WILLING TO COME ALONG!
I'VE NEVER DONE THAT BEFORE! BUT WHAT HAVE I GOT TO LOSE? SURE I'LL GO!

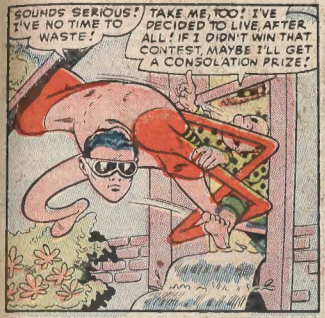

Meanwhile...
WOOZY! WHAT'S THE TROUBLE?
SOB CHOKE I JUST GOT A PREVIEW OF WHAT I'M GOING TO BE LIKE IN TEN YEARS!

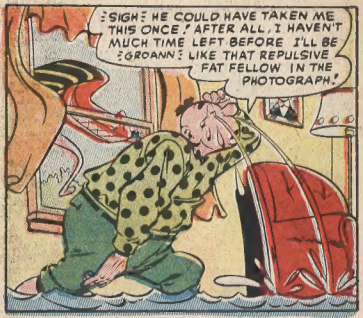

ISN'T IT HORRIBLE?
HMM!

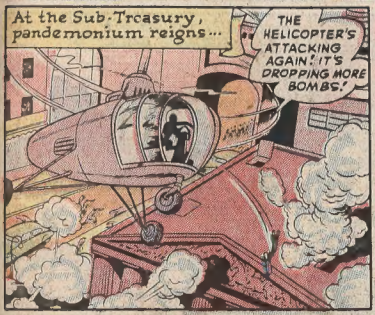
I DON'T THINK IT LOOKS SO BAD!
DON'T TRY TO CONSOLE ME! NO HUMAN BEING COULD LOOK LIKE THAT! LIFE HAS LOST IT'S MEANING FOR ME!

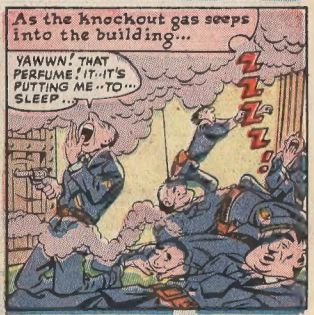
YOU'RE GOING TO END IT ALL?
DEFINITELY! BUT FIRST I'VE GOT TO FIND OUT WHETHER I'LL BE ANNOUNCED AS THE WINNER OF THE SUPERANNUATED SOAP SUDS RADIO CONTEST!
HONK!
CLICK!

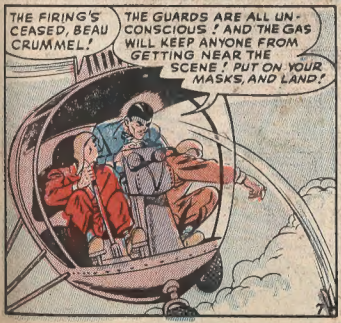
CALLING ALL CARS! PROCEED AT ONCE TO THE SUB TREASURY BUILDING! MYSTERIOUS HELICOPTER IS ATTACKING!


SOUNDS SERIOUS! I'VE NO TIME TO WASTE!
TAKE ME, TOO! I'VE DECIDED TO LIVE, AFTER ALL! IF I DIDN'T WIN THAT CONTEST, MAYBE I'LL GET A CONSOLATION PRIZE!


:SIGH: HE COULD HAVE TAKEN ME THIS ONCE! AFTER ALL, I HAVEN'T MUCH TIME LEFT BEFORE I'LL BE :GROANN: LIKE THAT REPULSIVE FAT FELLOW IN THE PHOTOGRAPH!

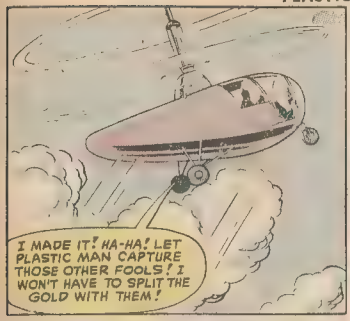

At the Sub-Treasury, pandemonium reigns...
THE HELICOPTER'S ATTACKING AGAIN! IT'S DROPPING MORE BOMBS!

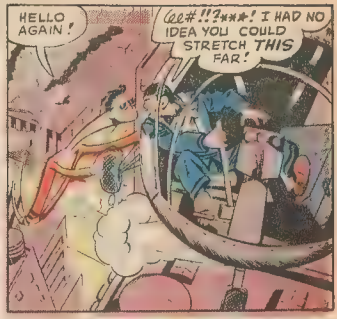

As the knockout gas seeps into the building...
YAWWN! THAT PERFUME! IT-IT'S PUTTING ME..TO... SLEEP...
ZZZZ...

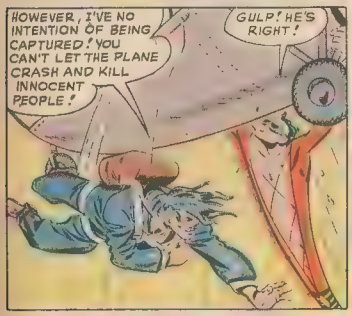

THE FIRING'S CEASED, BEAU CRUMMEL!
THE GUARDS ARE ALL UNCONSCIOUS! AND THE GAS WILL KEEP ANYONE FROM GETTING NEAR THE SCENE! PUT ON YOUR MASKS, AND LAND!

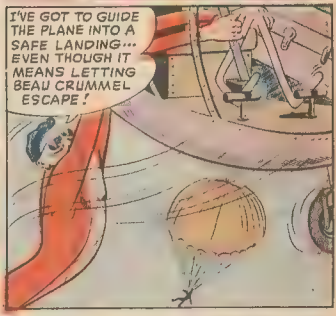
Inside the building...
YOU WEREN'T KIDDING, BEAU! THIS PLAN IS FOOLPROOF! WE'LL CLEAN UP ENOUGH DOUGH TO KEEP US IN LUXURY THE REST OF OUR LIVES!
ALL I WANT IS TEN YEARS: AFTER THAT I WON'T CARE!

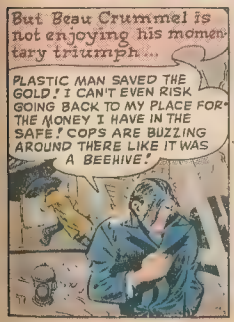
HOW ABOUT A NICE LIFE SENTENCE INSTEAD?
YIKE! PLASTIC MAN!
URRGHH! MY MASK!
YOU ASKED FOR THIS, PLASTIC MAN!
RAT-TAT-TAT!
YIIII! THE BULLETS BOUNCE BACK!
YOU'RE BOUNCING, TOO! DON'T YOU WISH YOU WERE MADE OF RUBBER?
POWNNGG!
BEAU CRUMMEL'S ESCAPED! AND HE'S GOT A TRUNKFUL OF GOLD!


I MADE IT! HA-HA! LET PLASTIC MAN CAPTURE THOSE OTHER FOOLS! I WON'T HAVE TO SPLIT THE GOLD WITH THEM!


HELLO AGAIN!
@@#!!?#**#! I HAD NO IDEA YOU COULD STRETCH THIS FAR!

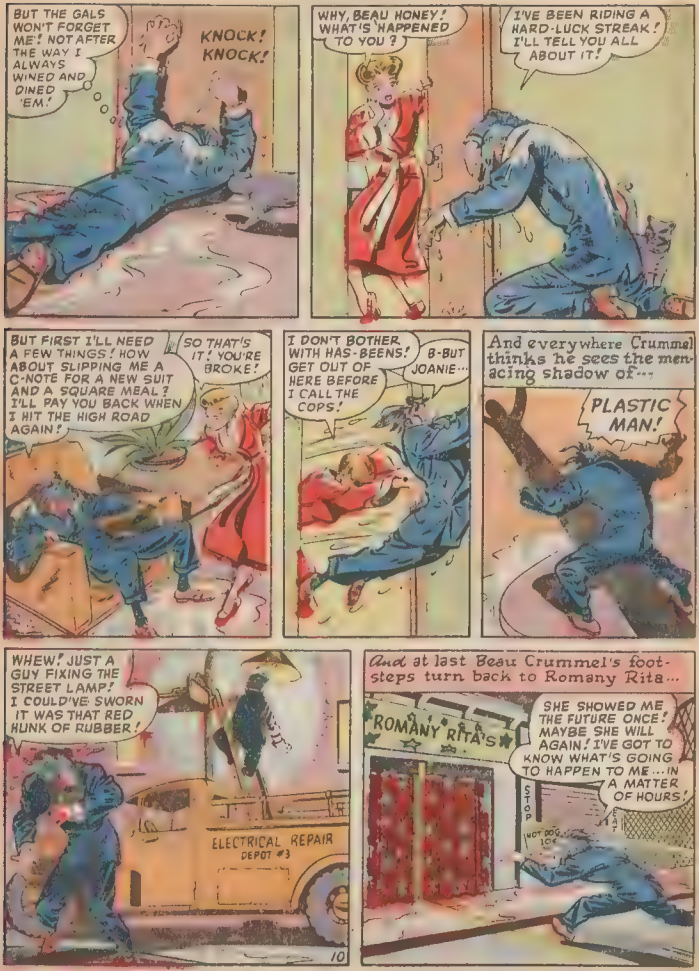

HOWEVER, I'VE NO INTENTION OF BEING CAPTURED! YOU CAN'T LET THE PLANE CRASH AND KILL INNOCENT PEOPLE!
GULP! HE'S RIGHT!


I'VE GOT TO GUIDE THE PLANE INTO A SAFE LANDING... EVEN THOUGH IT MEANS LETTING BEAU CRUMMEL ESCAPE!


But Beau Crummel is not enjoying his momentary triumph...
PLASTIC MAN SAVED THE GOLD! I CAN'T EVEN RISK GOING BACK TO MY PLACE FOR THE MONEY I HAVE IN THE SAFE! COPS ARE BUZZING AROUND THERE LIKE IT WAS A BEEHIVE!

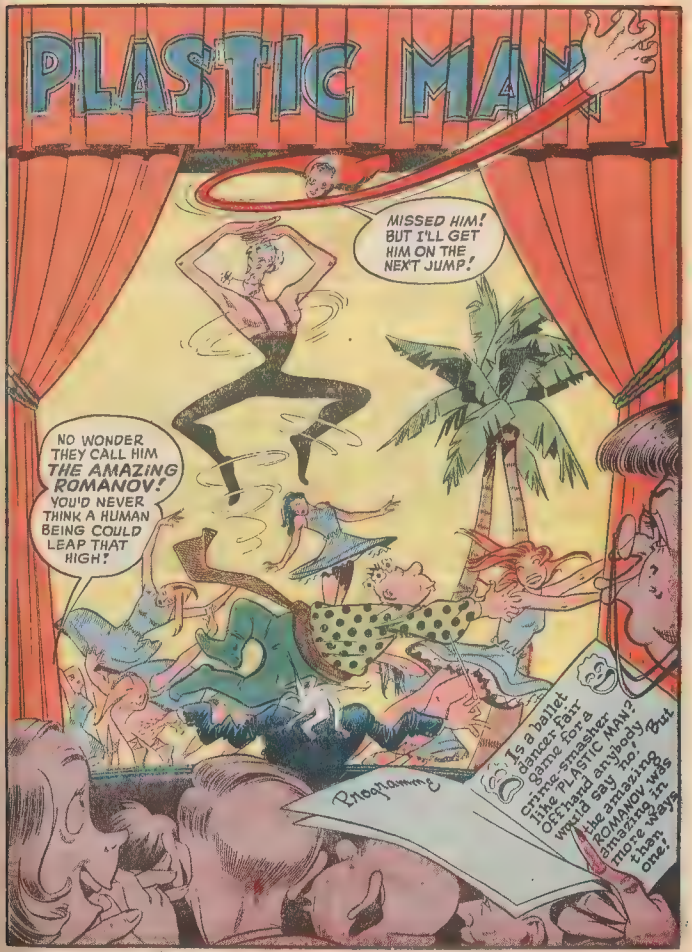
HELLO, SAM! IT'S ME... BEAU CRUMMEL! CAN YOU PUT ME UP FOR...
BEAT IT! YOU'RE HOTTER THAN A FRYING PAN!

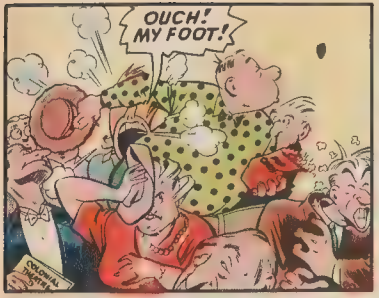
YA THINK I WANT THE COPS CLOSING DOWN MY PLACE?
WHY, THAT TWO-BIT PUNK! HE USED TO LICK MY SHOES IF I EVEN SPOKE A KIND WORD TO HIM!
SLAM!

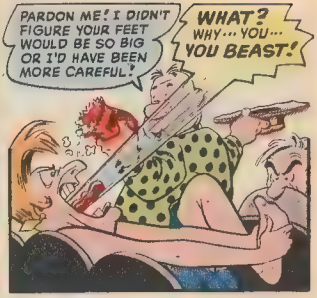

BUT THE GALS WON'T FORGET ME! NOT AFTER THE WAY I ALWAYS WINED AND DINED 'EM!
KNOCK! KNOCK!
WHY, BEAU HONEY! WHAT'S HAPPENED TO YOU?
I'VE BEEN RIDING A HARD-LUCK STREAK! I'LL TELL YOU ALL ABOUT IT!
BUT FIRST I'LL NEED A FEW THINGS! HOW ABOUT SLIPPING ME A C-NOTE FOR A NEW SUIT AND A SQUARE MEAL? I'LL PAY YOU BACK WHEN I HIT THE HIGH ROAD AGAIN!
SO THAT'S IT! YOU'RE BROKE!
I DON'T BOTHER WITH HAS-BEENS! GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE I CALL THE COPS!
B-BUT JOANIE...
And everywhere Crummel thinks he sees the menacing shadow of...
PLASTIC MAN!
WHEW! JUST A GUY FIXING THE STREET LAMP! I COULD'VE SWORN IT WAS THAT RED HUNK OF RUBBER!
ELECTRICAL REPAIR DEPOT #3
10
And at last Beau Crummel's footsteps turn back to Romany Rita...
ROMANY RITA'S
SHE SHOWED ME THE FUTURE ONCE! MAYBE SHE WILL AGAIN! I'VE GOT TO KNOW WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO ME... IN A MATTER OF HOURS!
CHOP
HOT DOG
ICE

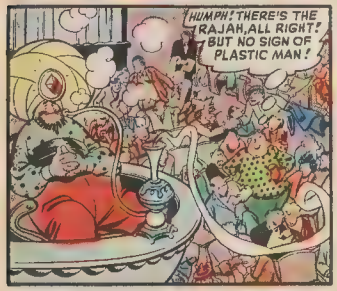
But Woozy also has business with Romany Rita...
I'D BETTER GET RID OF HIM RIGHT AWAY!
YA GOTTA SAVE ME! THERE MUST BE SOME WAY TO KEEP ME FROM LOOKING LIKE THAT PHOTO IN TEN YEARS!
HERE! TAKE THIS BOTTLE OF YOUTH SERUM! IT'LL MAKE YOU STAY...UGH... JUST THE WAY YOU ARE!
OH, THANK YOU! THANK YOU!
AH! I WAS CERTAIN THAT YOU WOULD RETURN! I'VE BEEN WAITING!
BEHOLD! ALREADY YOU RESEMBLE THE PHOTOGRAPH THE FUTURE CAMERA TOOK OF YOU... YOU'RE THAT WORRIED!
GROANN! I'M CONVINCED, GYPSY! YOU CAN SEE THE FUTURE! BUT THE PRESENT'S BAD ENOUGH!
TELL ME THIS! WILL PLASTIC MAN GET ME? OR WILL I MAKE A COMEBACK?
WE-ELL!
THE FUTURE LOOKS CLOUDED! BUT NOW A PICTURE FORMS DIMLY IN THE CRYSTAL! I SEE YOU IN A PRISON CELL!
MOAN! DON'T TELL ME THE REST!
I CAN GUESS... EEEOWW!

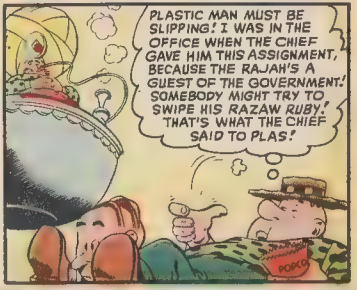
YOU'RE PLASTIC MAN!
RIGHT! WOOZY TRAILED YOU TO ROMANY RITA'S SO...
...I TOOK OVER AS RITA THE SECOND TIME!
UGH!
I GUESS THAT EXPLAINS EVERYTHING...EXCEPT THAT YOUR CRIMINAL CAREER IS DEFINITELY AT AN END!
YOU'RE TELLING ME!
BUT EXPLAIN ONE THING! HOW COME THAT FUTURE CAMERA REALLY SHOWED A PICTURE OF ME AS AN OLD MAN?
IT DIDN'T... RITA DID A GOOD RETOUCHING JOB ON THE ORIGINAL PHOTOGRAPH! IT FOOLED YOU INTO RISKING YOUR OWN NECK! A SIMPLE TRAP...
BUT YOU SWALLOWED IT HOOK, LINE AND SINKER! YOU EVEN CAME BACK FOR MORE! YOU WON'T NEED A FORTUNE TELLER TO TELL YOUR FUTURE FROM NOW ON!
14TH PRECINCT
Later...
YOU LOOK HAPPY AGAIN, WOOZY!
THIS MEDICINE ROMANY RITA GAVE ME IS WONDERFUL! I FEEL YEARS YOUNGER ALREADY...
THANK GOODNESS I WON'T LOOK LIKE THIS FAT JERK!
THAT MEDICINE IS JUST COLORED WATER! I HAVEN'T THE HEART TO TELL WOOZY THAT THE PHOTOGRAPH SHOWS HIM JUST THE WAY HE IS! HE WOULDN'T BELIEVE IT, ANYWAY!

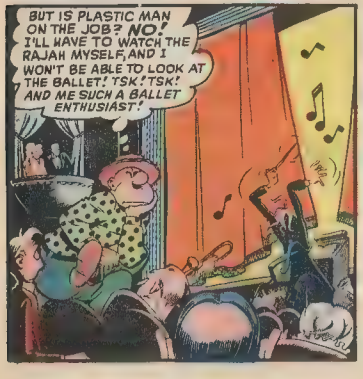

PLASTIC MAN
MISSED HIM! BUT I'LL GET HIM ON THE NEXT JUMP!
NO WONDER THEY CALL HIM THE AMAZING ROMANOV! YOU'D NEVER THINK A HUMAN BEING COULD LEAP THAT HIGH!
Program
Is a ballet dancer fair game for a crime smasher like PLASTIC MAN? Offhand anybody would say no! But the amazing ROMANOV was amazing in more ways than one!

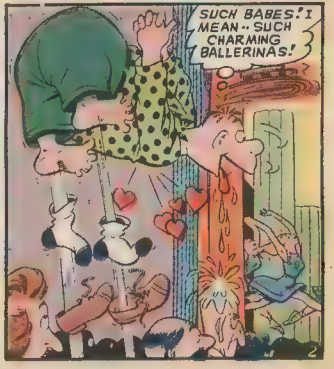

OUCH! MY FOOT!

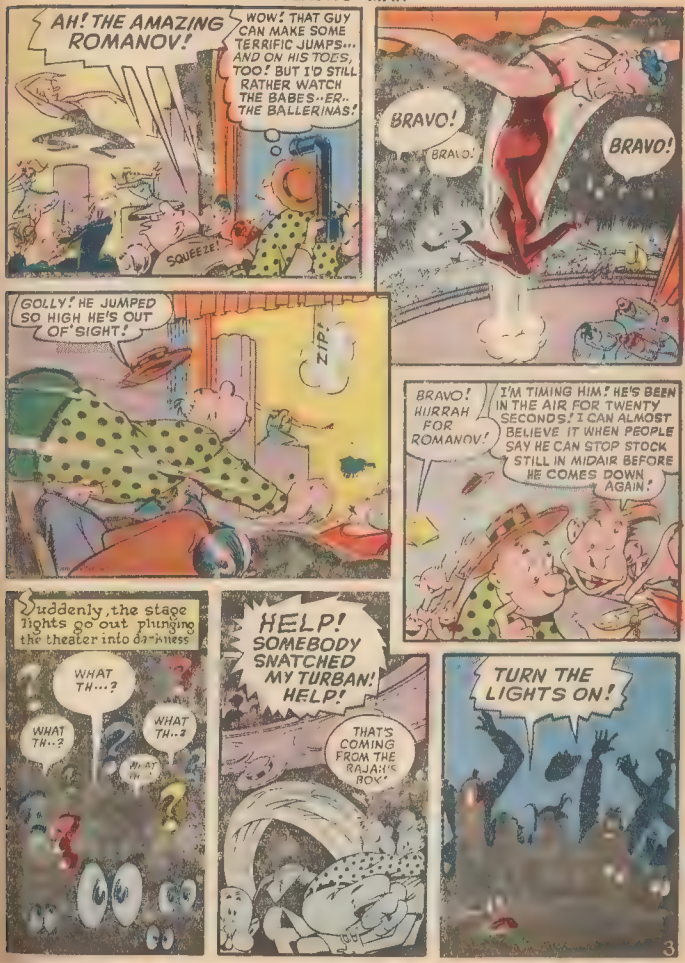

PARDON ME! I DIDN'T FIGURE YOUR FEET WOULD BE SO BIG OR I'D HAVE BEEN MORE CAREFUL!
WHAT? WHY... YOU... YOU BEAST!


HUMPH! THERE'S THE RAJAH, ALL RIGHT! BUT NO SIGN OF PLASTIC MAN!


PLASTIC MAN MUST BE SLIPPING! I WAS IN THE OFFICE WHEN THE CHIEF GAVE HIM THIS ASSIGNMENT, BECAUSE THE RAJAH'S A GUEST OF THE GOVERNMENT! SOMEBODY MIGHT TRY TO SWIPE HIS RAZAW RUBY! THAT'S WHAT THE CHIEF SAID TO PLAS!

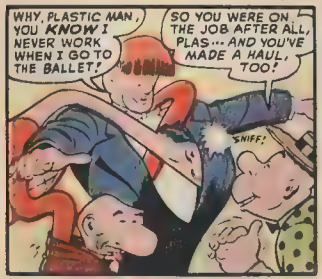

BUT IS PLASTIC MAN ON THE JOB? NO! I'LL HAVE TO WATCH THE RAJAH MYSELF, AND I WON'T BE ABLE TO LOOK AT THE BALLET! TSK! TSK! AND ME SUCH A BALLET ENTHUSIAST!

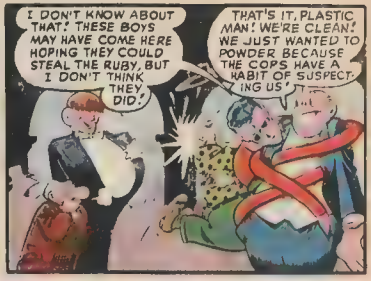

SUCH BABES! I MEAN.. SUCH CHARMING BALLERINAS!


AH! THE AMAZING ROMANOV!
WOW! THAT GUY CAN MAKE SOME TERRIFIC JUMPS... AND ON HIS TOES, TOO! BUT I'D STILL RATHER WATCH THE BABES--ER-- THE BALLERINAS!
SQUEEZE!
BRAVO!
BRAVO!
BRAVO!
GOLLY! HE JUMPED SO HIGH HE'S OUT OF SIGHT!
ZIP!
BRAVO! HURRAH FOR ROMANOV!
I'M TIMING HIM! HE'S BEEN IN THE AIR FOR TWENTY SECONDS! I CAN ALMOST BELIEVE IT WHEN PEOPLE SAY HE CAN STOP STOCK STILL IN MIDAIR BEFORE HE COMES DOWN AGAIN!
Suddenly, the stage lights go out plunging the theater into darkness
WHAT TH...?
WHAT TH..?
WHAT TH..?
HELP! SOMEBODY SNATCHED MY TURBAN! HELP!
THAT'S COMING FROM THE RAJA'S BOX!
TURN THE LIGHTS ON!

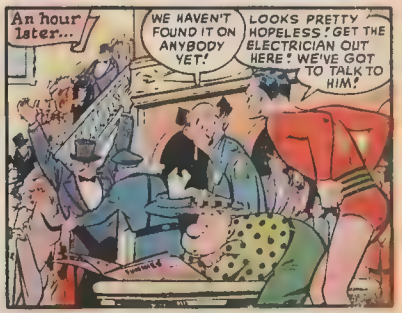
As the theatre lights go on···
WHAT A DISGRACEFUL INTERRUPTION! IT IS AN INSULT TO THE AMAZING ROMANOV AND HIS ART!
MY TURBAN! MY RUBY! THE RAZAW RUBY! GONE!
I'M RIGHT ON THE JOB, RAJAH! TAKE IT EASY!
ZIP!
HERE'S YOUR TURBAN··· RIGHT ON THE FLOOR!
AH!
BUT THE RUBY! IT'S MISSING!
HMM! I DO BELIEVE YOU'RE RIGHT!
I GUESS I'LL LEAVE RIGHT NOW! ALL THIS EXCITEMENT HAS SPOILED THE BALLET FOR ME!
ME, TOO!
USHER, WOULD YOU MIND REMOVING THIS PLUSH ROPE?
ROPE? WHAT ROPE?

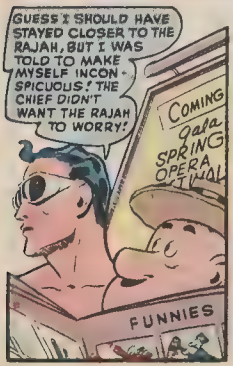
THAT'S FUNNY! I'VE NEVER SEEN IT HERE BEFORE!
GULP! IT WRIGGLED RIGHT OUT OF MY HAND!
NATURALLY! YOU TICKLED ME!
IT TALKS!
DIP DOWNEY AND FINGERS FOLEY! WHY THE RUSH TO LEAVE?
GRAWK!
PLA-ASTIC MA-AN!
AND RAPPER SCALLON, SOAPY SCRAMBO AND TOM DEFTLY! WELL, WELL... A HOUSE FULL OF CROOKS AND ALL IN A HURRY TO LEAVE!
AWRK!
PLASTIC MAN! HOW HORRIBLE TO SEE YOU!
YOU WOULDN'T BY ANY CHANCE BE SO EAGER TO GET OUT OF HERE BECAUSE ONE OF YOU HAS THE RAZAW RUBY, WOULD YOU?
ME? PERISH THE THOUGHT!
PLAS! YOU'RE HERE!


WHY, PLASTIC MAN, YOU KNOW I NEVER WORK WHEN I GO TO THE BALLET!
SO YOU WERE ON THE JOB AFTER ALL, PLAS... AND YOU'VE MADE A HAUL, TOO!
SNIFF!


I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT! THESE BOYS MAY HAVE COME HERE HOPING THEY COULD STEAL THE RUBY, BUT I DON'T THINK THEY DID!
THAT'S IT, PLASTIC MAN! WE'RE CLEAN! WE JUST WANTED TO POWDER BECAUSE THE COPS HAVE A HABIT OF SUSPECTING US!

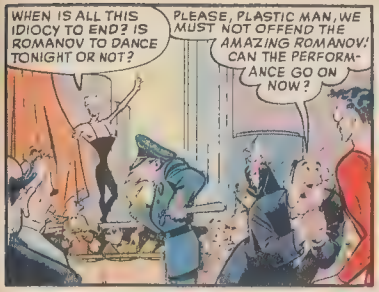
CALL THE POLICE! RECOVER MY RUBY! DO SOMETHING! I'LL SUE! I'LL START A WAR!
SOMEBODY CALL THE COPS! EVERYBODY MUST BE SEARCHED!

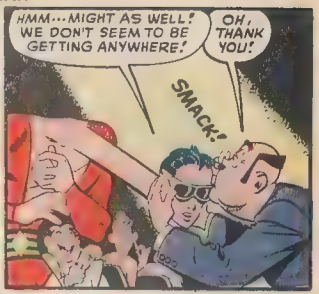

An hour later...
WE HAVEN'T FOUND IT ON ANYBODY YET!
LOOKS PRETTY HOPELESS! GET THE ELECTRICIAN OUT HERE! WE'VE GOT TO TALK TO HIM!

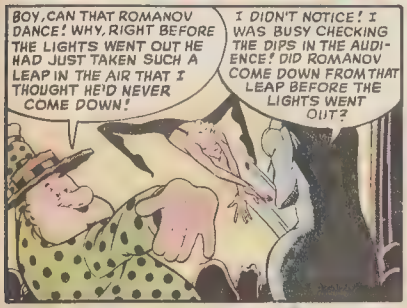

GUESS I SHOULD HAVE STAYED CLOSER TO THE RAJAH, BUT I WAS TOLD TO MAKE MYSELF INCONSPICUOUS! THE CHIEF DIDN'T WANT THE RAJAH TO WORRY!
COMING Gala SPRING OPERA FINAL
FUNNIES

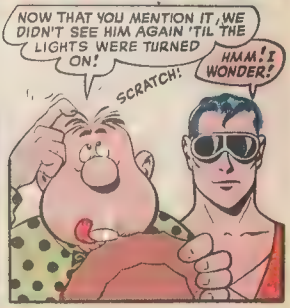
HERE'S THE ELECTRICIAN!
HOW DID THOSE STAGE LIGHTS HAPPEN TO GO OUT?
6

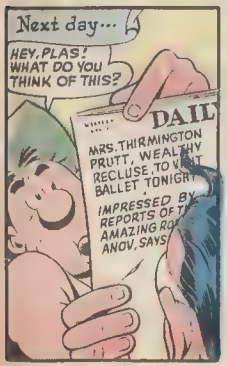
I DON'T KNOW! I HAD ONLY TAKEN MY EYES OFF THE SWITCHES FOR A MINUTE! I FELT SOMETHING BRUSH PAST ME, AND THE LIGHTS WENT OUT!
I SEE! I GUESS THAT'S ALL!

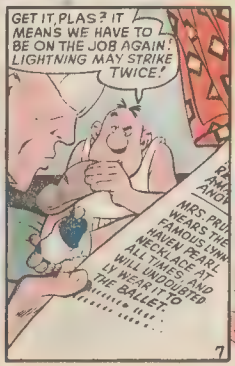

WHEN IS ALL THIS IDIOCY TO END? IS ROMANOV TO DANCE TONIGHT OR NOT?
PLEASE, PLASTIC MAN, WE MUST NOT OFFEND THE AMAZING ROMANOV! CAN THE PERFORMANCE GO ON NOW?


HMM··· MIGHT AS WELL! WE DON'T SEEM TO BE GETTING ANYWHERE!
OH, THANK YOU!
SMACK!

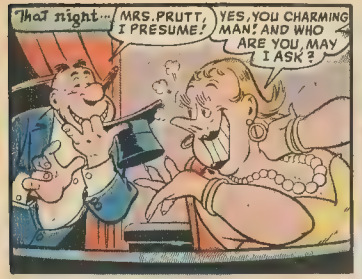

BOY, CAN THAT ROMANOV DANCE! WHY, RIGHT BEFORE THE LIGHTS WENT OUT HE HAD JUST TAKEN SUCH A LEAP IN THE AIR THAT I THOUGHT HE'D NEVER COME DOWN!
I DIDN'T NOTICE! I WAS BUSY CHECKING THE DIPS IN THE AUDIENCE! DID ROMANOV COME DOWN FROM THAT LEAP BEFORE THE LIGHTS WENT OUT?

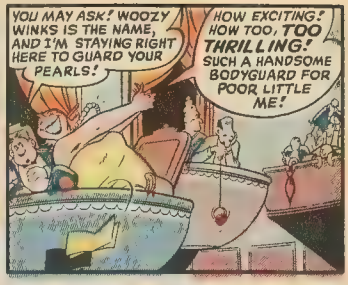

NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, WE DIDN'T SEE HIM AGAIN 'TIL THE LIGHTS WERE TURNED ON!
HMM! I WONDER!
SCRATCH!

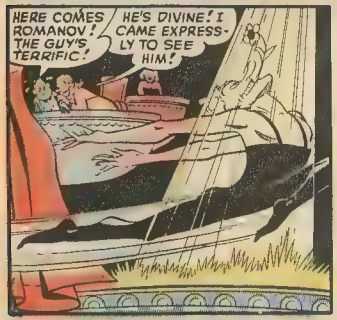

Next day···
HEY, PLAS! WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THIS?
DAIL
MRS. THIRMINGTON PRUTT, WEALTHY RECLUSE, TO VISIT BALLET TONIGHT
IMPRESSED BY REPORTS OF THE AMAZING ROMANOV, SAYS

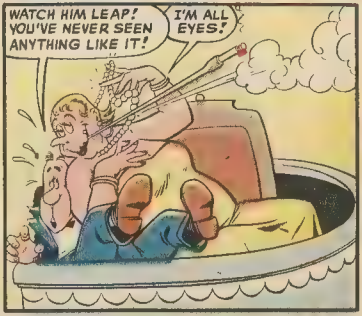

GET IT, PLAS? IT MEANS WE HAVE TO BE ON THE JOB AGAIN! LIGHTNING MAY STRIKE TWICE!
MRS. PRU WEARS THE FAMOUS LYNN HAVEN PEARL NECKLACE AT ALL TIMES, AND WILL UNDOUBTED LY WEAR IT TO THE BALLET.

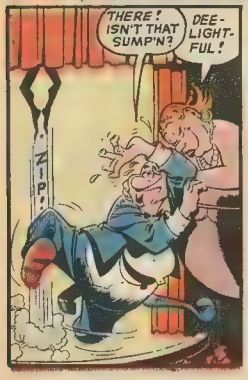
I DOUBT IT! EVERY CROOK IN TOWN WILL FIGURE THE COPS'LL BE READY THIS TIME!
DON'T GO IF YOU DON'T WISH TO, PLAS··· BUT I'LL BE THERE! IF THE THIEF SHOWS UP AGAIN, I'LL NAB HIM!
PITOOIE!


That night···
MRS. PRUTT, I PRESUME!
YES, YOU CHARMING MAN! AND WHO ARE YOU, MAY I ASK?


YOU MAY ASK! WOOZY WINKS IS THE NAME, AND I'M STAYING RIGHT HERE TO GUARD YOUR PEARLS!
HOW EXCITING! HOW TOO, TOO THRILLING! SUCH A HANDSOME BODYGUARD FOR POOR LITTLE ME!


HERE COMES ROMANOV! THE GUY'S TERRIFIC!
HE'S DIVINE! I CAME EXPRESSLY TO SEE HIM!

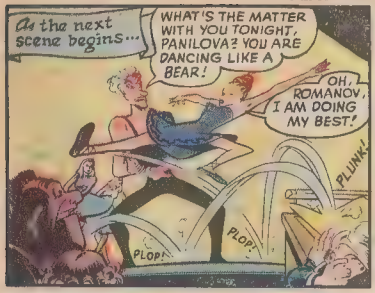

WATCH HIM LEAP! YOU'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT!
I'M ALL EYES!

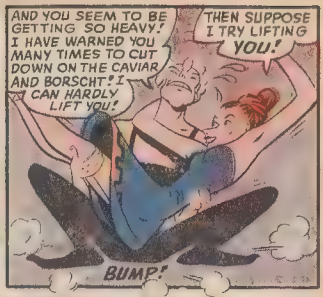

THERE! ISN'T THAT SUMP'N?
DEE-LIGHT-FUL!
ZIP!

But once more the lights go out···
EEK! IT'S SO DARK!
THE LIGHTS WENT OUT AGAIN! THE THIEF WON'T GET AWAY WITH IT THIS TIME!

MY FLASHLIGHT! I KNOW I HAD IT WITH ME! I MUST HAVE DROPPED IT!
OH! DON'T YOU DARE TOUCH ME!
8

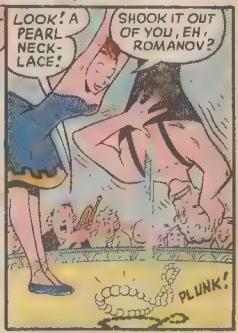
BUT MADAME, YOU MUST BE MISTAKEN! MY HANDS ARE ON THE FLOOR! AH! HERE IT IS! I KNEW I HAD IT!
MY NECKLACE!
PLUNK!
THE NECKLACE? WHAT ABOUT THE NECKLACE? UH-OH! I'LL CATCH THE THIEF!
BANG! BANG!
YOU'LL HAVE TO MOVE FASTER THAN THAT TO DO IT, WOOZY! KEEP THAT LIGHT OFF ME! I'LL GET HIM!
PLASTIC MAN! IT WAS YOU ALL THE TIME!
OH! THE LIGHTS ARE ON AGAIN!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? GET OFF THE STAGE!
PARDON ME!
LUCKY WOOZY DIDN'T GET TOO NOISY! THE AUDIENCE KNOWS NOTHING ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED! I CAN'T DO ANYTHING IMMEDIATELY, BUT IT WON'T BE LONG NOW!
WHAT HAPPENED THIS TIME? AND WHY IS THE LIGHTING CONTROL SYSTEM WAY UP HERE?
THAT'S THE WAY THIS THEATER WAS BUILT! IT'S INCONVENIENT FOR ME, BUT NOT FOR THE GUY WHO SOCKED ME JUST NOW!
IT HAPPENED THE SAME WAY AGAIN, BUT THIS TIME I ALMOST TURNED IN TIME TO SEE WHO IT WAS BEFORE I GOT A SOCK ON THE HEAD!
I'VE GOT TO SEE THE MANAGER!

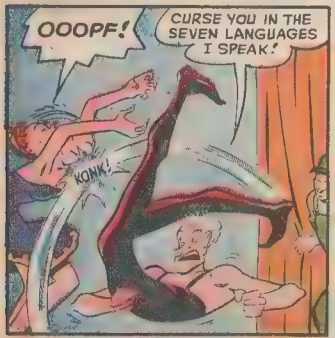

As the next scene begins...
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU TONIGHT, PANILOVA? YOU ARE DANCING LIKE A BEAR!
OH, ROMANOV, I AM DOING MY BEST!
PLUNK!
PLOP!
PLOP!

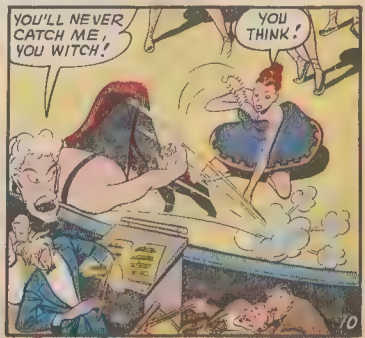

AND YOU SEEM TO BE GETTING SO HEAVY! I HAVE WARNED YOU MANY TIMES TO CUT DOWN ON THE CAVIAR AND BORSCHT! I CAN HARDLY LIFT YOU!
THEN SUPPOSE I TRY LIFTING YOU!
BUMP!

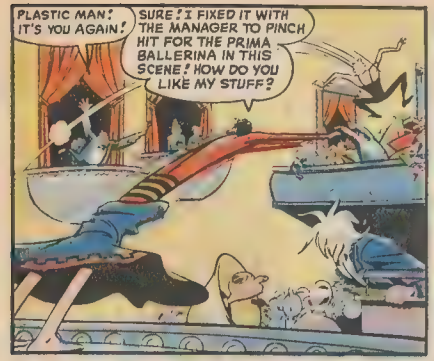
WHAT?
LIKE THIS!

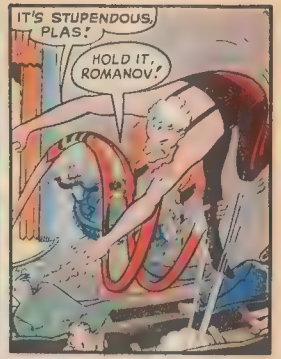
OR PERHAPS YOU PREFER IT THIS WAY?
THERE'S SOMETHING HIGHLY IRREGULAR ABOUT THIS!

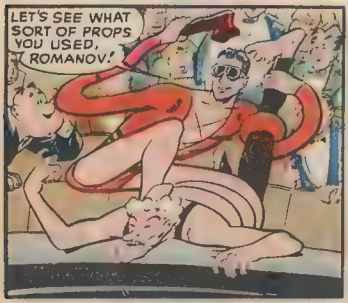

LOOK! A PEARL NECKLACE!
SHOOK IT OUT OF YOU, EH, ROMANOV?
PLUNK!

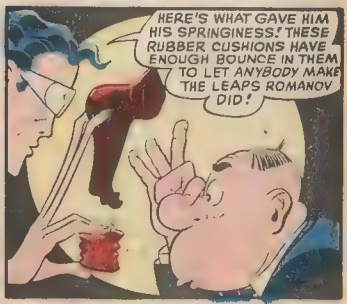

OOOPF!
CURSE YOU IN THE SEVEN LANGUAGES I SPEAK!
KONK!

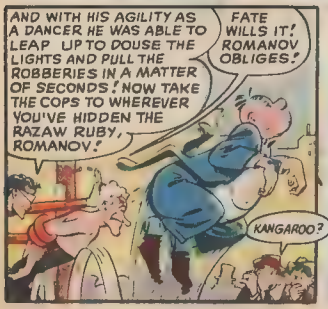

YOU'LL NEVER CATCH ME, YOU WITCH!
YOU THINK!

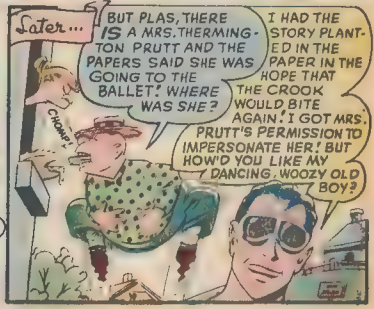

PLASTIC MAN! IT'S YOU AGAIN!
SURE! I FIXED IT WITH THE MANAGER TO PINCH HIT FOR THE PRIMA BALLERINA IN THIS SCENE! HOW DO YOU LIKE MY STUFF?

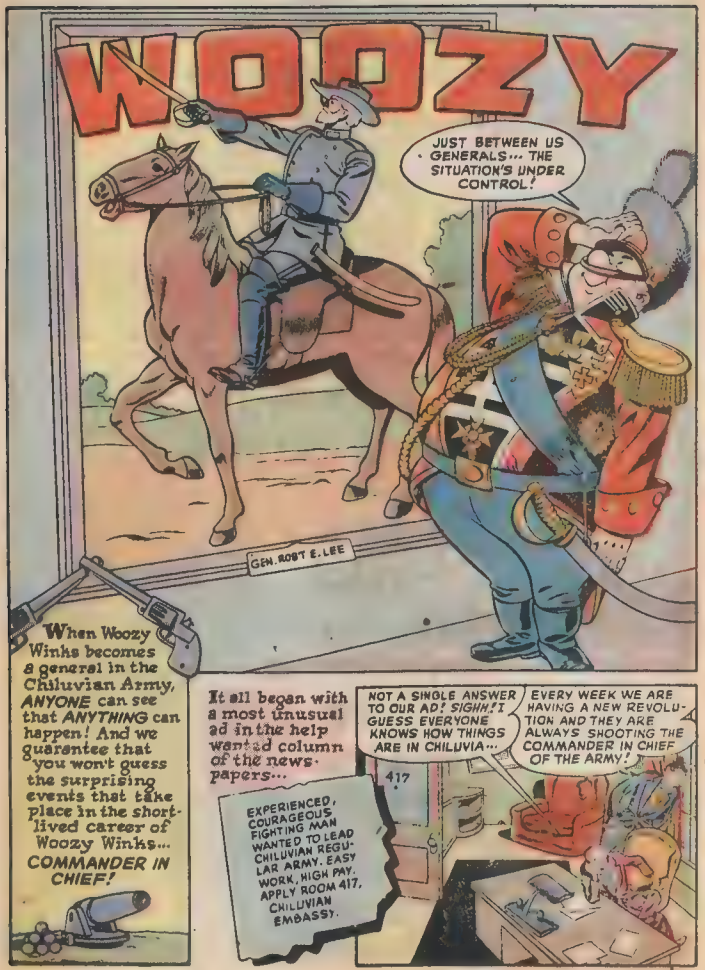

IT'S STUPENDOUS, PLAS!
HOLD IT, ROMANOV!


LET'S SEE WHAT SORT OF PROPS YOU USED, ROMANOV!


HERE'S WHAT GAVE HIM HIS SPRINGINESS! THESE RUBBER CUSHIONS HAVE ENOUGH BOUNCE IN THEM TO LET ANYBODY MAKE THE LEAPS ROMANOV DID!


AND WITH HIS AGILITY AS A DANCER HE WAS ABLE TO LEAP UP TO DOUSE THE LIGHTS AND PULL THE ROBBERIES IN A MATTER OF SECONDS! NOW TAKE THE COPS TO WHEREVER YOU'VE HIDDEN THE RAZAW RUBY, ROMANOV!
FATE WILLS IT! ROMANOV OBLIGES!
KANGAROO?


Later...
BUT PLAS, THERE IS A MRS. THERMINGTON PRUTT AND THE PAPERS SAID SHE WAS GOING TO THE BALLET! WHERE WAS SHE?
I HAD THE STORY PLANTED IN THE PAPER IN THE HOPE THAT THE CROOK WOULD BITE AGAIN! I GOT MRS. PRUTT'S PERMISSION TO IMPERSONATE HER! BUT HOW'D YOU LIKE MY DANCING, WOOZY OLD BOY?
CHOMP!

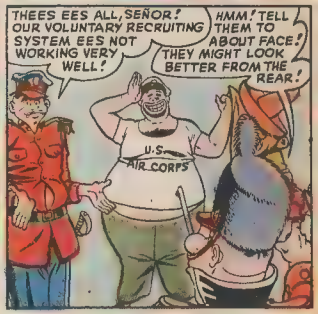

WOOZY
JUST BETWEEN US GENERALS... THE SITUATION'S UNDER CONTROL!
GEN. ROBT E. LEE
When Woozy Winks becomes a general in the Chiluvian Army, ANYONE can see that ANYTHING can happen! And we guarantee that you won't guess the surprising events that take place in the short-lived career of Woozy Winks... COMMANDER IN CHIEF!
It all began with a most unusual ad in the help wanted column of the newspapers...
EXPERIENCED, COURAGEOUS FIGHTING MAN WANTED TO LEAD CHILUVIAN REGULAR ARMY. EASY WORK, HIGH PAY. APPLY ROOM 417, CHILUVIAN EMBASSY.
NOT A SINGLE ANSWER TO OUR AD! SIGH!! I GUESS EVERYONE KNOWS HOW THINGS ARE IN CHILUVIA...
EVERY WEEK WE ARE HAVING A NEW REVOLUTION AND THEY ARE ALWAYS SHOOTING THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE ARMY!
417

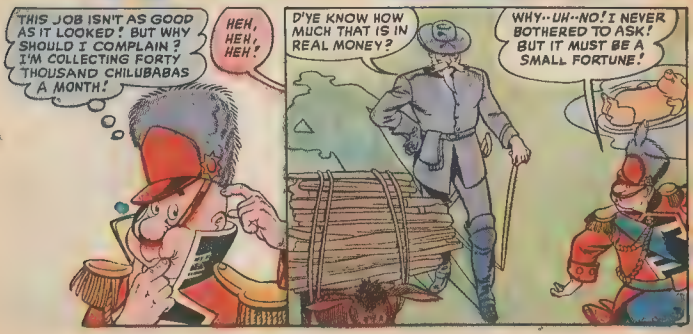
BUT IF WE DON'T FIND ANOTHER COMMANDER IN CHIEF, MAYBE THEY WILL SHOOT SOMEBODY ELSE! THAT WILL BE SERIOUS!
YOUR PROBLEM IS SOLVED, GENTLEMEN!
I, WOOZY WINKS, AM JUST THE MAN YOU NEED! EXPERIENCED, COURAGEOUS... AND A FIRST-CLASS FIGHTING MAN!
WONDERFUL!
YOU'RE HIRED! HERE'S YOUR NEW UNIFORM!
HMM! THERE ARE SEVERAL SMALL ROUND HOLES IN IT!
MOTH HOLES! WE'LL HAVE THEM SEWED UP FOR YOU!
HERE'S YOUR TICKET TO CHILUVIA! AND MAY YOU REST IN... I MEAN, GOOD LUCK!
Later, the new commander in chief arrives in Chiluvia to take over his command...
DOESN'T LOOK LIKE A VERY PROSPEROUS PLACE!
BUT I GUESS THIS IS THE SLUM SECTION OF CHILUVIA!
OH, NO, SEÑOR! THEE'S EES THE CAPITAL OF CHILUVIA!

YOU ARE THE NEW COMMANDER IN CHIEF··· I SALUTE YOU!
HOW DO YOU LIKE MY UNIFORM? SNAZZY, EH?

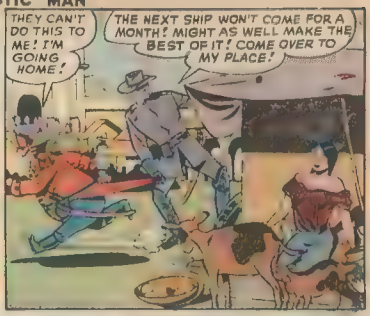
AH, YES, SEÑOR! WELL DO I REMEMBER SOB! THE LAST TIME EET WAS WORN BY JOSE DE OLDAT! THE BULLETS NEARLY RUINED EET!
BULLETS?

OF COURSE, SEÑOR! JOSE DE OLDAT WAS SHOT DURING THE REVOLUTION! ALLOW ME TO PRESENT THE ARMY!
WHERE?
U.S. AIR CORPS

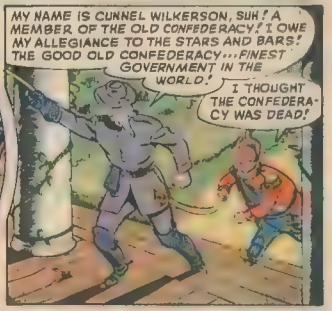

THEES EES ALL, SEÑOR! OUR VOLUNTARY RECRUITING SYSTEM EES NOT WORKING VERY WELL!
HMM! TELL THEM TO ABOUT FACE! THEY MIGHT LOOK BETTER FROM THE REAR!
U.S. AIR CORPS

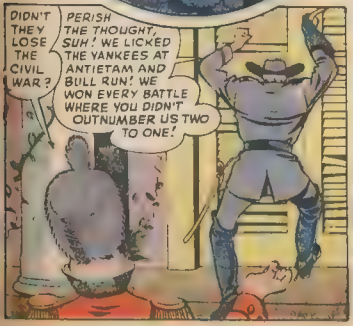

THIS JOB ISN'T AS GOOD AS IT LOOKED! BUT WHY SHOULD I COMPLAIN? I'M COLLECTING FORTY THOUSAND CHILUBABAS A MONTH!
HEH, HEH, HEH!
D'YE KNOW HOW MUCH THAT IS IN REAL MONEY?
WHY··UH··NO! I NEVER BOTHERED TO ASK! BUT IT MUST BE A SMALL FORTUNE!

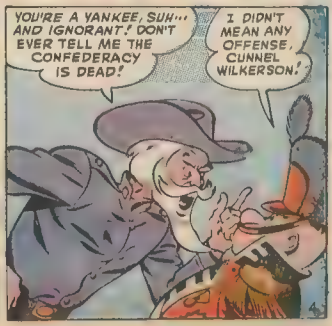
HEH, HEH, HEH! SMALL IS THE RIGHT WORD! JUST ABOUT TWO DOLLARS GOLD!
ULP! I'VE BEEN SWINDLED!

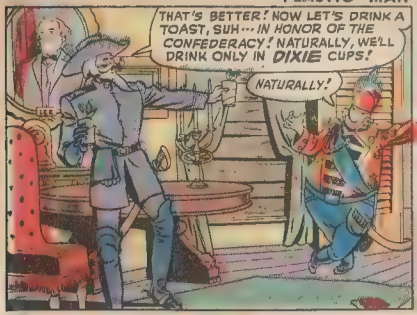

THEY CAN'T DO THIS TO ME! I'M GOING HOME!
THE NEXT SHIP WON'T COME FOR A MONTH! MIGHT AS WELL MAKE THE BEST OF IT! COME OVER TO MY PLACE!

EVEN IF YOU ARE A NORTHERNER, YOU'RE DIFFERENT FROM THESE GEKK-!! CHILUVIANS! AND YOU WON'T BE AROUND LONG ENOUGH TO GET ON MY NERVES...
YOU ARE FROM THE SOUTH?

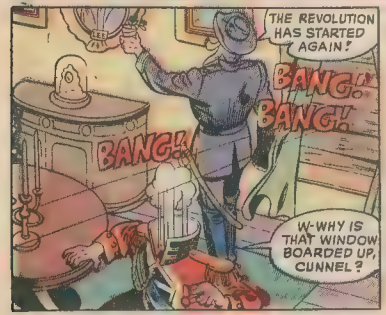

MY NAME IS CUNNEL WILKERSON, SUH! A MEMBER OF THE OLD CONFEDERACY! I OWE MY ALLEGIANCE TO THE STARS AND BARS! THE GOOD OLD CONFEDERACY... FINEST GOVERNMENT IN THE WORLD!
I THOUGHT THE CONFEDERACY WAS DEAD!

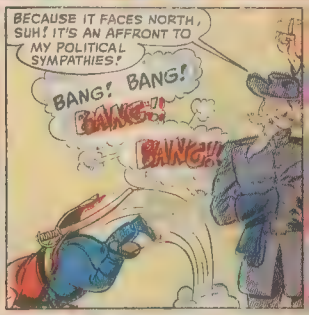

DIDN'T THEY LOSE THE CIVIL WAR?
PERISH THE THOUGHT, SUH! WE LICKED THE YANKEES AT ANTIETAM AND BULL RUN! WE WON EVERY BATTLE WHERE YOU DIDN'T OUTNUMBER US TWO TO ONE!

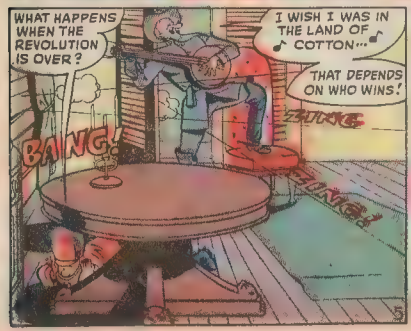

YOU'RE A YANKEE, SUH... AND IGNORANT! DON'T EVER TELL ME THE CONFEDERACY IS DEAD!
I DIDN'T MEAN ANY OFFENSE, CUNNEL WILKERSON!

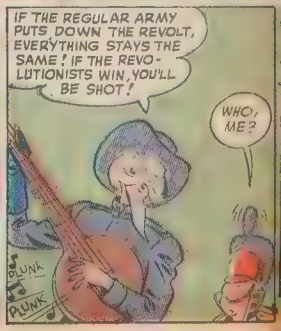

THAT'S BETTER! NOW LET'S DRINK A TOAST, SUH··· IN HONOR OF THE CONFEDERACY! NATURALLY, WE'LL DRINK ONLY IN DIXIE CUPS!
NATURALLY!

ULP! WHAT'S THAT?

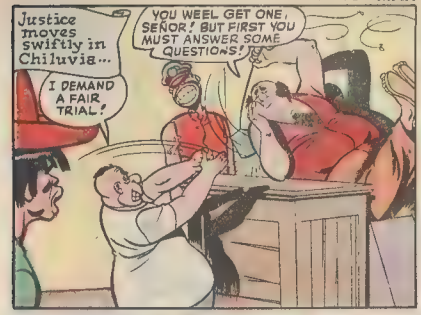

THE REVOLUTION HAS STARTED AGAIN!
BANG!!
BANG!
BANG!!
W-WHY IS THAT WINDOW BOARDED UP, CUNNEL?

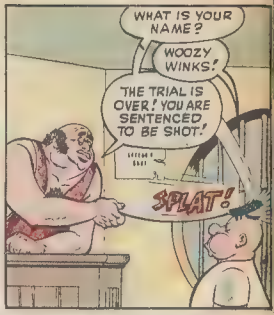

BECAUSE IT FACES NORTH, SUH! IT'S AN AFFRONT TO MY POLITICAL SYMPATHIES!
BANG! BANG!
BANG!!
BANG!!


WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE REVOLUTION IS OVER?
I WISH I WAS IN THE LAND OF ♪ COTTON··· ♪
THAT DEPENDS ON WHO WINS!
BANG!
CLUNK!

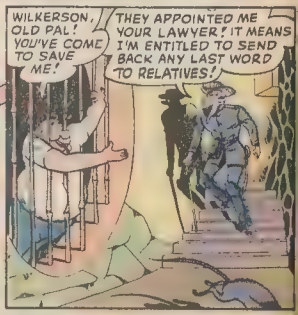

IF THE REGULAR ARMY PUTS DOWN THE REVOLT, EVERYTHING STAYS THE SAME! IF THE REVOLUTIONISTS WIN, YOU'LL BE SHOT!
WHO, ME?
PLUNK
PLUNK

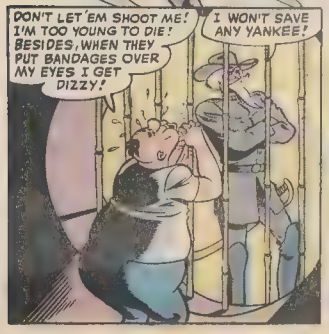
THEN WHAT AM I DOING HERE?
TO ARMS! TO ARMS!
FIND THE REVOLUTIONISTS! SHOOT THEM! THAT'S AN ORDER!
I AM SORRY, SEÑOR!
... BUT THE ARMY HAS JOINED THE SIDE OF THE REVOLUTION!
YIII!
BANG! BANG!
A FINE WAY TO TREAT THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF! I RESIGN!
ZING!
BANG!
BANG!
BANG!
La CUCARACHA
OH-OH! THEY'RE CLOSING IN ON ME NOW!
ZING!
ZIP!
SO SORRY, SEÑOR! BUT NOW THAT YOU ARE CAPTURED, THE REVOLUTION IS OVER!
GLUB!

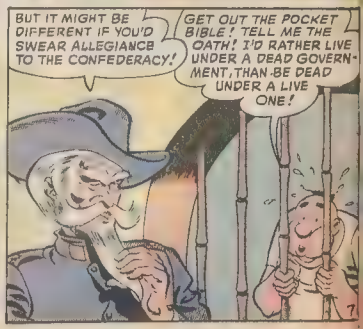

Justice moves swiftly in Chiluvia...
I DEMAND A FAIR TRIAL!
YOU WEEL GET ONE, SEÑOR! BUT FIRST YOU MUST ANSWER SOME QUESTIONS!

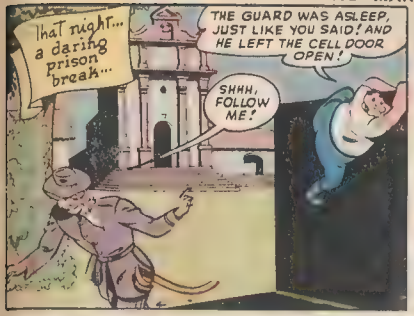

WHAT IS YOUR NAME?
WOOZY WINKS!
THE TRIAL IS OVER! YOU ARE SENTENCED TO BE SHOT!
SPLAT!

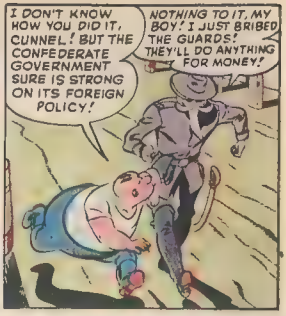
YA CAN'T DO THIS! I WANT TO SEE MY LAWYER! WIRE THE AMERICAN EMBASSY! CALL OUT THE UNITED STATES NAVY!

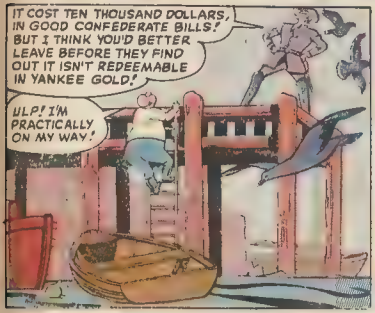

WILKERSON, OLD PAL! YOU'VE COME TO SAVE ME!
THEY APPOINTED ME YOUR LAWYER! IT MEANS I'M ENTITLED TO SEND BACK ANY LAST WORD TO RELATIVES!

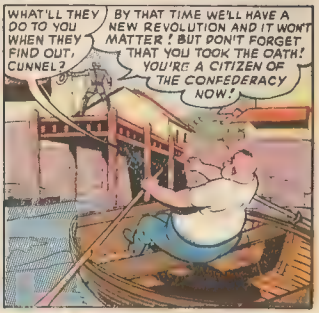

DON'T LET 'EM SHOOT ME! I'M TOO YOUNG TO DIE! BESIDES, WHEN THEY PUT BANDAGES OVER MY EYES I GET DIZZY!
I WON'T SAVE ANY YANKEE!

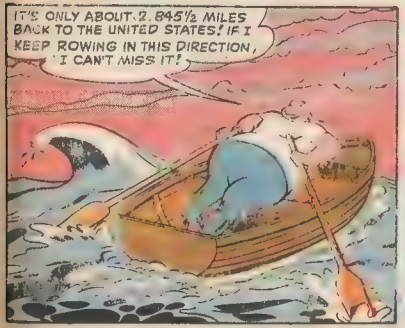

BUT IT MIGHT BE DIFFERENT IF YOU'D SWEAR ALLEGIANCE TO THE CONFEDERACY!
GET OUT THE POCKET BIBLE! TELL ME THE OATH! I'D RATHER LIVE UNDER A DEAD GOVERNMENT, THAN BE DEAD UNDER A LIVE ONE!

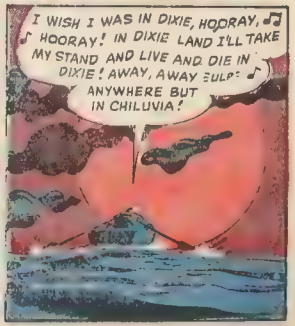

That night... a daring prison break...
THE GUARD WAS ASLEEP, JUST LIKE YOU SAID! AND HE LEFT THE CELL DOOR OPEN!
SHHH, FOLLOW ME!


I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU DID IT, CUNNEL! BUT THE CONFEDERATE GOVERNMENT SURE IS STRONG ON ITS FOREIGN POLICY!
NOTHING TO IT, MY BOY! I JUST BRIBED THE GUARDS! THEY'LL DO ANYTHING FOR MONEY!


IT COST TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS, IN GOOD CONFEDERATE BILLS! BUT I THINK YOU'D BETTER LEAVE BEFORE THEY FIND OUT IT ISN'T REDEEMABLE IN YANKEE GOLD!
ULP! I'M PRACTICALLY ON MY WAY!


WHAT'LL THEY DO TO YOU WHEN THEY FIND OUT, CUNNEL?
BY THAT TIME WE'LL HAVE A NEW REVOLUTION AND IT WON'T MATTER! BUT DON'T FORGET THAT YOU TOOK THE OATH! YOU'RE A CITIZEN OF THE CONFEDERACY NOW!


IT'S ONLY ABOUT 2,845½ MILES BACK TO THE UNITED STATES! IF I KEEP ROWING IN THIS DIRECTION, I CAN'T MISS IT!


I WISH I WAS IN DIXIE, HOORAY, ♫ ♪ HOORAY! IN DIXIE LAND I'LL TAKE MY STAND AND LIVE AND DIE IN DIXIE! AWAY, AWAY ZULP! ♪
ANYWHERE BUT IN CHILUVIA!

Plastic Man Snaps Back

THE news got around, nobody was sure just how. Maybe there was a leak somewhere. Or maybe Big Tom himself had started the stories. You never could figure what Big Tom was up to—he was smart. He had to be, or he wouldn't have lasted all these years as boss of the toughest mobs in town.

From mouth to crooked mouth the story passed: Big Tom was putting up the money to back some crackpot scientist.

"Geez, they say he's kickin' in thousands of dollars!"

"It don't make sense to me—but they say he spends all his time hangin' around there!"

"Yeah? He'd better spend some time worryin' about this guy Plastic Man, I'm tellin' ya!"

Big Tom just grinned, narrowing his little eyes buried in their layers of fat, and went quietly on his way, saying nothing. There were elements of truth in the stories. Big Tom did spend many evenings in the loft of an isolated warehouse. The loft had been converted into a fair approximation of a scientific laboratory, and the man in charge, tall and gaunt and hollow-eyed, did suggest the popular conception of a "mad scientist."

Even the members of Big Tom's own rackets didn't know what went on inside, though some of them had to do guard duty at this strange lab. It was their job to stand outside and prevent anyone from entering . . . anyone, that is, except Big Tom and the mad scientist himself.

They couldn't see Big Tom as he sat night after night, leaning forward to watch intently as the scientist worked. And they couldn't see the strange shape that was gradually being assembled, which Big Tom watched with growing satisfaction. In recent weeks, though, Big Tom had been growing impatient. He chewed on his cigar more violently and he questioned the scientist more frequently. Maybe this had something to do with the fact that Plastic Man was making inroads into Big Tom's rackets. Some of Big Tom's gang were behind bars as a result of the elusive, skillful Plastic Man, and the underworld was asking itself, what's Big Tom going to do about it?

Plastic Man was being asked the same question as he sat in his room one evening. "Plas, whatcha suppose Big Tom's up to?" inquired Woozy Winks, Plastic Man's assistant. "Guess you've heard some of the stories?"

"I've heard them," Plas agreed. "Interesting, aren't they? I'm curious as to what Big Tom's dreamed up. Somehow I don't believe he's thought of anything that can stop *me*—but then you might call me a prejudiced observer!"

"Whatever it is, he'll probably try it pretty soon," Woozy said. "One more big raid on his rackets and you'll just about have Big Tom himself behind bars."

"Yes," Plas agreed, "I expect it'll be soon. And I'm hoping it really is an attack on me, engineered by Big Tom himself. That'll give us the evidence we need. So far, he's been so smart at covering up that we can't prove anything against him personally, even though everybody's sure he's back of these things."

"Soon, huh?" Woozy muttered.

As if in answer, there was a sudden knock at the door. Startled, Woozy leaped from his chair.

Plas grinned again. "Open the door, Woozy. Sounds like we have a guest."

"But Plas!" Woozy protested. "It's pretty late for callers. Hadn't I better ask who—"

The heavy knock was repeated.

"Why, Woozy!" Plas chided. "You don't want to be inhospitable, do you? Go ahead and open the door."

Woozy moved his weighty bulk across the room reluctantly, turned the key and opened the door. Then he gasped and jumped back against the wall. Two men stood in the doorway—tough-looking guys, with their hat brims pulled low over their faces, and carrying guns. No . . Woozy looked again. There weren't any guns visible. It was just that you'd *expect* guys like these to carry guns.

"Come in, gentlemen!" Plas exclaimed.

"We broughtcha an invitation," one of the guys said. "From a guy named Big Tom—ya may've heard of him."

"Oh, yes," Plas agreed. "I've heard of Big Tom."

"He'd like to have a little talk with ya. He's got sompin' he'd like to show ya."

Plas smiled. He'd said Big Tom was smart, and this proved it. Instead of sending guys with guns, useless when it came to shooting Plastic Man, Big Tom had sent a mysterious message that would appeal to Plas' curiosity. Well, it did. He would accept Big Tom's challenge!

A powerful car sped them through town and into the warehouse district. It stopped and they got out in front of an isolated building, dark on the ground floor but with brightly lighted windows above. Big Tom's laboratory!

Up the stairs they went, past the guards at the door. While the escorts stayed behind, Plas stepped into the lab, to be greeted genially by Big Tom himself.

"Wanted to show you a new invention!" Big Tom said to Plas. Wanted to get your opinion!" He motioned Plas to a corner of the big room where a thick curtain hung, hiding something.

Plas moved warily. It couldn't be a bomb—Big Tom wouldn't risk his own life. But the quickest way to discover Big Tom's secret was to spring his trap! With a sudden move forward Plas ripped aside the curtain—and stood staring.

Facing him stood a huge, weird figure. It had a head, two arms and two legs, but it was not a man—not a human being. As if the curtain-pulling were a signal, its great metallic arms shot forward and encircled Plastic Man.

"An automaton!" Plas cried. "A regular Frankenstein monster!"

"But with modern improvements!" The scientist chortled. "A radar-controlled mechanism, as impervious to destruction as you yourself!"

Plas was finding that out. The encircling arms were becoming uncomfortably tight—but when Plas attempted to slip from the clutches in his usual elusive way, he got nowhere. Blows on the metal figure had no effect. When Plas tried to extend his rubbery limbs to reach the control mechanism, the iron grip always forestalled him. Was this to be the end of the great Plastic Man—tied into knots and thrown away by a creature of iron and steel? Plas could hear Big Tom laughing and congratulating the scientist.

Plastic Man took a deep breath. Gathering all his strength, he lunged forward against the metal body. Knocked off balance, the great creature tipped backward.

"Look out!" shouted Big Tom.

But it was too late. Backward the automaton fell, still holding tight to Plastic Man. There was a shatter of breaking glass and both figures crashed downward through a window onto the cement walk below.

The awful clang of smashing metal told Big Tom and the scientist only too clearly, the fate of their Frankenstein. But Plastic Man? As the metallic echoes died away, there was a *whoosh*—and back through the window sailed Plastic Man!

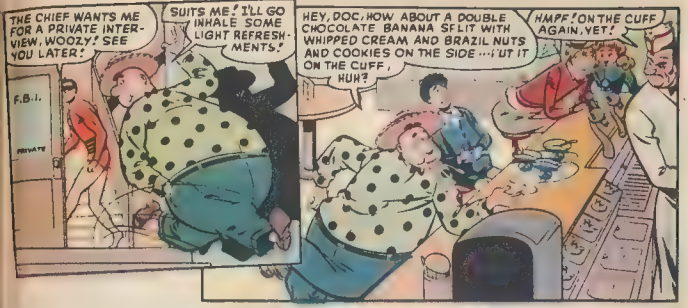
"You forgot just one thing!" Plas said to them. "Your automaton doesn't bounce—and I do!" Extending his rubbery arms, he captured Big Tom with one and the scientist with the other.

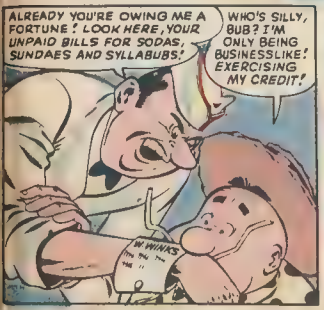
"And now off to the police," he grinned. "This charge will stick, Big Tom—attempted murder!"

WHO'S GOING TO SURPRISE WHICH?

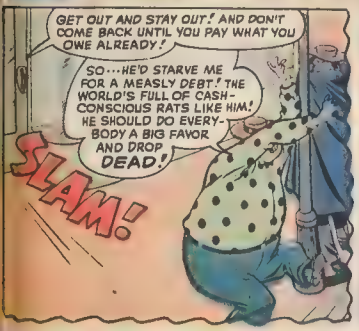
The F.B.I. assigned Plastic Man to trace, expose and overwhelm a sinister crew of criminals who called themselves the **WORLD AGAINSTERS!**

How was he to know that among that crew would be his pal **WOOZY WINKS**, and how could Woozy know that **PLASTIC MAN** would pursue him?


THE CHIEF WANTS ME FOR A PRIVATE INTERVIEW, WOOZY! SEE YOU LATER!
F.B.I.
PRIVATE
SUITS ME! I'LL GO INHALE SOME LIGHT REFRESHMENTS!
HEY, DOC, HOW ABOUT A DOUBLE CHOCOLATE BANANA SPLIT WITH WHIPPED CREAM AND BRAZIL NUTS AND COOKIES ON THE SIDE ... PUT IT ON THE CUFF, HUH?
HMPF! ON THE CUFF AGAIN, YET!


ALREADY YOU'RE OWING ME A FORTUNE! LOOK HERE, YOUR UNPAID BILLS FOR SODAS, SUNDAES AND SYLLABUBS!
WHO'S SILLY, BUB? I'M ONLY BEING BUSINESSLIKE! EXERCISING MY CREDIT!
IN WINAS

CREDIT, HE SAYS! YOU HAVE NO MORE CREDIT HERE, WOOZY WINKS, UNTIL YOU SETTLE YOUR BONDED INDEBTEDNESS!
INSULTS, HUH? OKAY, CHUM... I'LL TAKE MY BUSINESS ELSEWHERE!

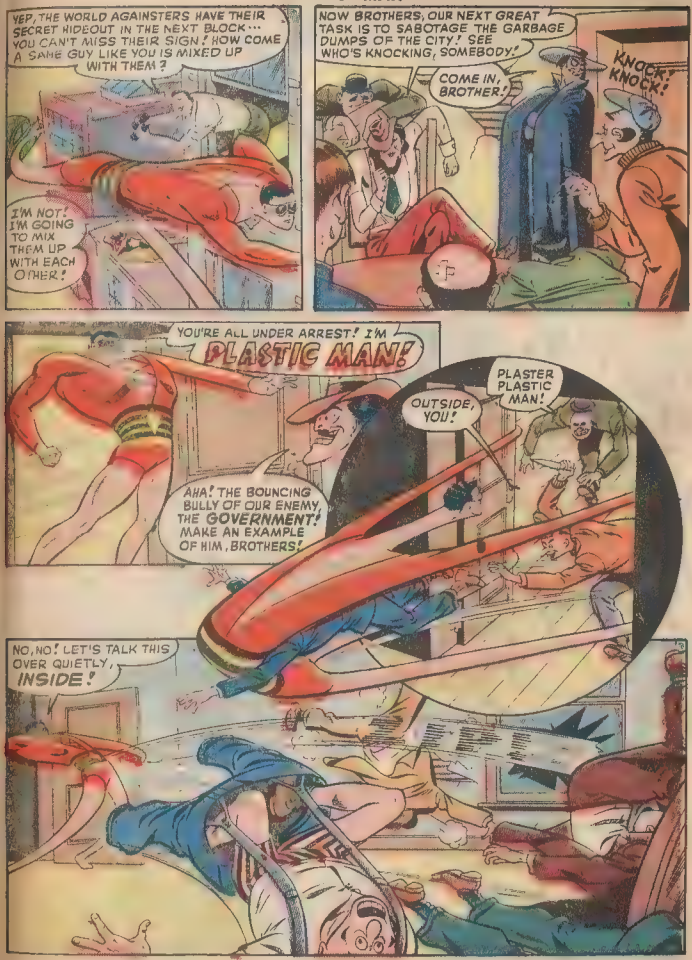

GET OUT AND STAY OUT! AND DON'T COME BACK UNTIL YOU PAY WHAT YOU OWE ALREADY!
SO... HE'D STARVE ME FOR A MEASLY DEBT! THE WORLD'S FULL OF CASH-CONSCIOUS RATS LIKE HIM! HE SHOULD DO EVERYBODY A BIG FAVOR AND DROP DEAD!
SLAM!

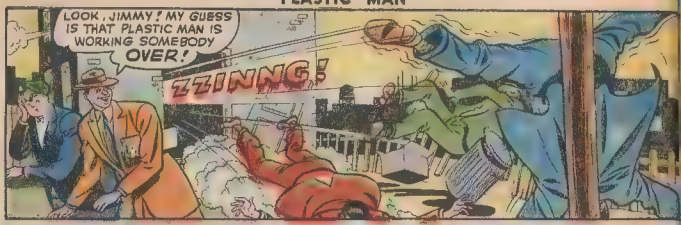
DOWN WITH THE WHOLE DIRTY SYSTEM THAT WON'T GIVE ME WHAT I WANT ON CREDIT! THERE'LL COME A DAY OF RECKONING!
AHA, BROTHER! I HEARD WHAT YOU SAID, BROTHER!

OKAY, SO YOU HEARD ME! AND I MEANT EVERY WORD! SOME DAY I'LL BURN DOWN THAT SODA JOINT, AND IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT...
BUT I DO LIKE IT, BROTHER! I LOVE IT! MY NAME'S BROTHER BLEMISH... WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
MY NAME'S WOOZY WINKS! AND I'M NOT ASHAMED TO STATE THAT I'M AGAINST...
EXACTLY THE WORD, BROTHER WINKS... AGAINST! WHY DON'T YOU JOIN THE WORLD AGAINSTERS!
WORLD AGAINSTERS, MR BLEMISH? WHAT KIND OF AN OUTFIT IS THAT?
CALL ME BROTHER BLEMISH, BROTHER! THE TIME IS NOT RIPE TO TELL YOU EXACTLY WHAT THE PURPOSE OF THE WORLD AGAINSTERS IS... BUT WILL YOU HELP US IN OUR GLORIOUS FIGHT?
I AM NOT PERMITTED TO REVEAL AT THE MOMENT, WHO AND WHY OUR ENEMY IS... BUT WILL YOU DEDICATE YOUR LIFE TO OUR NOBLE CAUSE?
YOU KNOW, BROTHER BLEMISH, YOU SOUND LIKE YOU'RE IN WITH A NASTY SWEET BUNCH OF BOYS! I'LL JOIN!
EXCELLENT, BROTHER! COME RIGHT IN AND MEET THE MOR... I MEAN THE BROTHERS!
KEEP OUT
BROTHERS, I'VE JUST SIGNED UP A NEW BROTHER FOR THE WORLD AGAINSTERS
WELCOME, BROTHER!
YIPPEE!

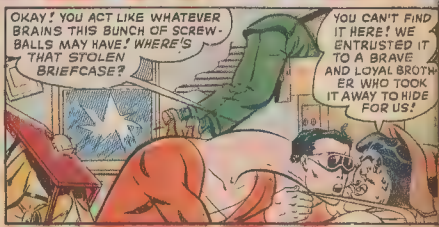
CAN YOU LEND ME FIVE BUCKS, BROTHER?
LOOK, BROTHER, I CAN GIVE YOU A HOT TIP ON THE RACES FOR TWO SKINS!
I WANT TO EAT DINNER WITH YOU, BROTHER! LET'S EAT AT YOUR LEISURE!
NOW YOU SEE, BROTHER, ALL THESE BROTHERS ARE LIKE BRO TO YOU!
BROTHER, I'M THE CHIEF BROTHER OF THE WORLD AGAINSTERS! WELCOME TO OUR GREAT BROTHERHOOD.. I CAN SEE YOU'LL BE A BIG HELP!
HELP? SURE, BROTHER... UNLESS YOU MEAN HEAVY WORK! I'M REALLY THE MENTAL TYPE!
OOOF!
THIS IS AN IMPORTANT PRIZE WE HAVE STOLEN FROM OUR DREADFUL ENEMY! YOU LOOK LIKE JUST THE BRAVE, TRUSTWORTHY BROTHER TO KEEP IT SAFE FOR US!
TAKE IT, BROTHER! HIDE IT CAREFULLY! GUARD IT WITH YOUR LIFE! ON YOUR LOYALTY AND COURAGE DEPENDS THE FUTURE OF THE WORLD AGAINSTERS!
GEE, THANKS! YOU COULDN'T GIVE THIS TO A MORE TRUSTWORTHY GUY!
BOY, OH BOY, OH BOY! WAIT TILL PLAS HEARS WHAT A BIG SHOT I AM IN THE WORLD AGAINSTERS!
HI, PLAS! SAY, I WANT TO TELL YOU...
I JUST GOT BACK FROM TALKING TO THE CHIEF, WOOZY! A MOST UNUSUAL ASSIGNMENT!
4

I'M TO TRACK DOWN AND BUST UP THE HALF-BRAINED ACTIVITIES OF A BUNCH OF SLAP-HAPPY IDIOTS CALLED THE WORLD AGAINSTERS!
WH··· WHA-AT?
ZZZIP!
WORLD AGAINSTERS? BUT··BUT···
I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO SAY! UP TO NOW NOBODY HAS PAID ANY ATTENTION TO THEIR SILLY SQUEALINGS AND MUMBLINGS.
···UNTIL THEY STOLE AN IMPORTANT BLACK BRIEFCASE FROM THE CHIEF HIMSELF! I'M GOING TO GET IT BACK AND MAKE AN EXAMPLE OF THE GUY WHO HAS IT!
B-B-BLACK B-BRIEF-CASE? OH, DEAR!
I'M ON THEIR TRAIL RIGHT NOW! WANT TO TAG ALONG AS USUAL, WOOZY?
MAAM··· NOT JUST NOW, PLAS! I HAVE A SORT OF PLAYED OUT FEELING··WANT TO REST!
HE'LL MAKE AN EXAMPLE OF THE GUY WHO HAS THIS BRIEFCASE, PLAS SAID! WHAT A HORRIBLE EXAMPLE HE CAN MAKE OF A GUY, TOO! I'LL HIDE IT···
I'M BEGINNING TO THINK THAT MAYBE I WASN'T REALLY SMART TO JOIN THOSE WORLD AGAINSTERS!
Moments later...
PUT IT INTO YOUR DEEPEST VAULT AND KEEP IT TILL I CALL FOR IT!
OKEL-DOKEL, MISTER! HERE'S YOUR BAGGAGE CHECK!
STORAGE
DEPOSITION
STORAGE
5

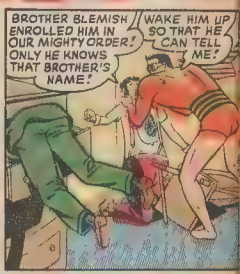

YEP, THE WORLD AGAINSTERS HAVE THEIR SECRET HIDEOUT IN THE NEXT BLOCK··· YOU CAN'T MISS THEIR SIGN! HOW COME A SAME GUY LIKE YOU IS MIXED UP WITH THEM?
I'M NOT! I'M GOING TO MIX THEM UP WITH EACH OTHER!
NOW BROTHERS, OUR NEXT GREAT TASK IS TO SABOTAGE THE GARBAGE DUMPS OF THE CITY! SEE WHO'S KNOCKING, SOMEBODY!
COME IN, BROTHER!
KNOCK! KNOCK!
YOU'RE ALL UNDER ARREST! I'M PLASTIC MAN!
AHA! THE BOUNCING BULLY OF OUR ENEMY, THE GOVERNMENT! MAKE AN EXAMPLE OF HIM, BROTHERS!
PLASTER PLASTIC MAN!
OUTSIDE, YOU!
NO, NO! LET'S TALK THIS OVER QUIETLY, INSIDE!

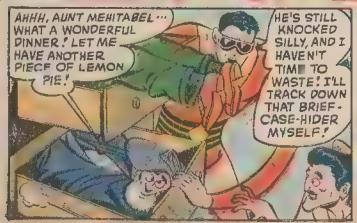

LOOK, JIMMY! MY GUESS IS THAT PLASTIC MAN IS WORKING SOMEBODY OVER!
ZZING!

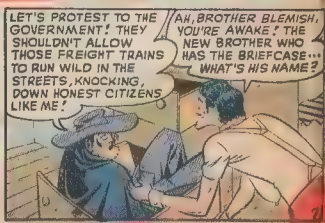
WAIT! ARE WE THE WORLD AGAINSTERS, OR IS THE WHOLE WORLD AGAINST US?
ZOOM!
BOP!

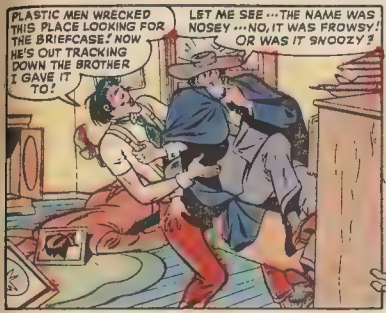

OKAY! YOU ACT LIKE WHATEVER BRAINS THIS BUNCH OF SCREWBALLS MAY HAVE! WHERE'S THAT STOLEN BRIEFCASE?
YOU CAN'T FIND IT HERE! WE ENTRUSTED IT TO A BRAVE AND LOYAL BROTHER WHO TOOK IT AWAY TO HIDE FOR US!

WHO HAS IT? TELL ME, OR I'LL SHAKE YOU LOOSE FROM YOUR FRECKLES!
NIX! CUT IT OUT! I--I DON'T KNOW THE BROTHER'S NAME!

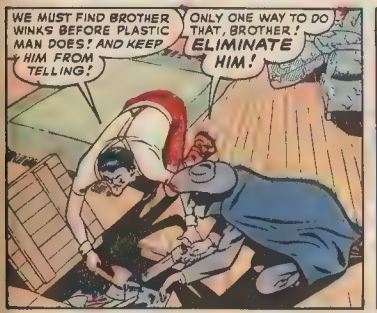

BROTHER BLEMISH ENROLLED HIM IN OUR MIGHTY ORDER! ONLY HE KNOWS THAT BROTHER'S NAME!
WAKE HIM UP SO THAT HE CAN TELL ME!


AHHH, AUNT MEHITABEL... WHAT A WONDERFUL DINNER! LET ME HAVE ANOTHER PIECE OF LEMON PIE!
HE'S STILL KNOCKED SILLY, AND I HAVEN'T TIME TO WASTE! I'LL TRACK DOWN THAT BRIEFCASE-HIDER MYSELF!


LET'S PROTEST TO THE GOVERNMENT! THEY SHOULDN'T ALLOW THOSE FREIGHT TRAINS TO RUN WILD IN THE STREETS, KNOCKING DOWN HONEST CITIZENS LIKE ME!
AH, BROTHER BLEMISH, YOU'RE AWAKE! THE NEW BROTHER WHO HAS THE BRIEFCASE... WHAT'S HIS NAME?

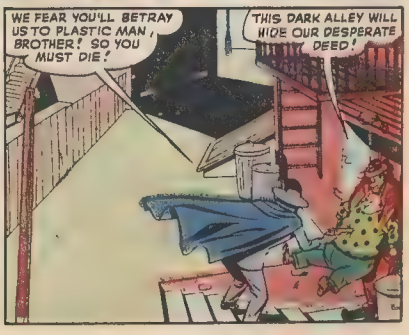

PLASTIC MEN WRECKED THIS PLACE LOOKING FOR THE BRIEFCASE! NOW HE'S OUT TRACKING DOWN THE BROTHER I GAVE IT TO!
LET ME SEE ··· THE NAME WAS NOSEY ··· NO, IT WAS FROWSY! OR WAS IT SNOOZY?

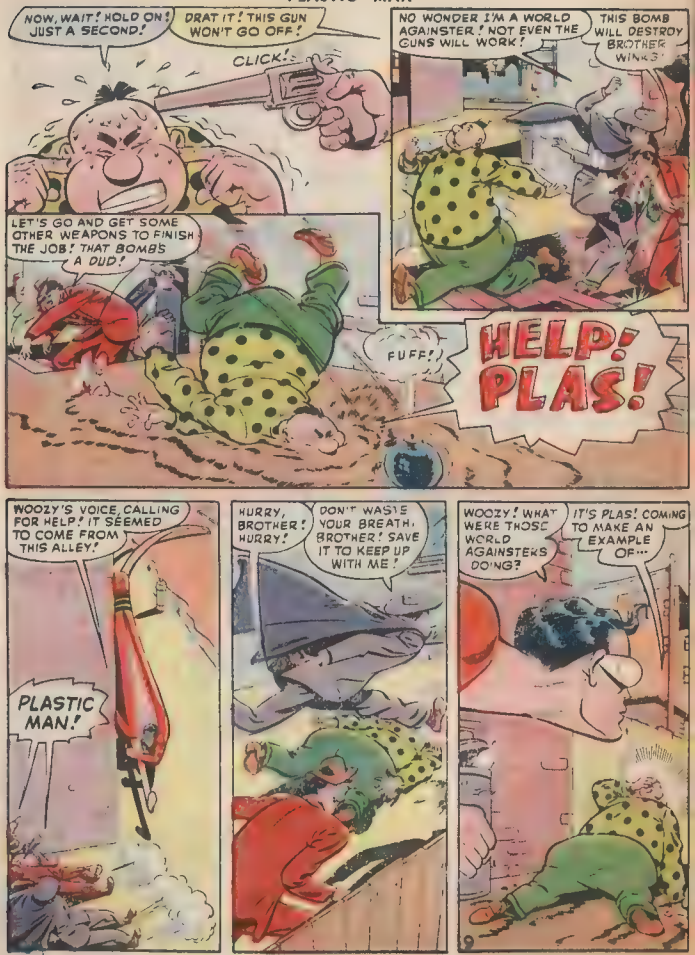
NOW I REMEMBER! WOOZY WINKS··· BROTHER WOOZY WINKS!
DO YOU REALIZE WHAT WE MUST DO, BROTHER?


WE MUST FIND BROTHER WINKS BEFORE PLASTIC MAN DOES! AND KEEP HIM FROM TELLING!
ONLY ONE WAY TO DO THAT, BROTHER! ELIMINATE HIM!

LOOK, BROTHER! IT IS HE!
IF I COULD ONLY DOPE OUT SOME WAY TO GET RID OF THAT BRIEFCASE WITHOUT···

HI, BROTHERS! WHAT GOES ON? SAY, I GOT A NOTION I'D LIKE TO WITHDRAW FROM···
FOLLOW US, BROTHER!


WE FEAR YOU'LL BETRAY US TO PLASTIC MAN, BROTHER! SO YOU MUST DIE!
THIS DARK ALLEY WILL HIDE OUR DESPERATE DEED!

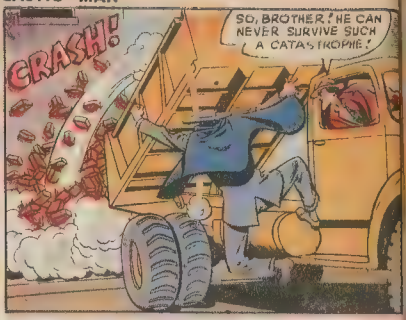

NOW, WAIT! HOLD ON! JUST A SECOND!
DRAT IT! THIS GUN WON'T GO OFF!
CLICK!
NO WONDER I'M A WORLD AGAINSTER! NOT EVEN THE GUNS WILL WORK!
THIS BOMB WILL DESTROY BROTHER WINK!
LET'S GO AND GET SOME OTHER WEAPONS TO FINISH THE JOB! THAT BOMB'S A DUD!
FUFF!
HELP! PLAS!
WOOZY'S VOICE, CALLING FOR HELP! IT SEEMED TO COME FROM THIS ALLEY!
PLASTIC MAN!
HURRY, BROTHER! HURRY!
DON'T WASTE YOUR BREATH, BROTHER! SAVE IT TO KEEP UP WITH ME!
WOOZY! WHAT WERE THOSE WORLD AGAINSTERS DOING?
IT'S PLAS! COMING TO MAKE AN EXAMPLE OF...
9

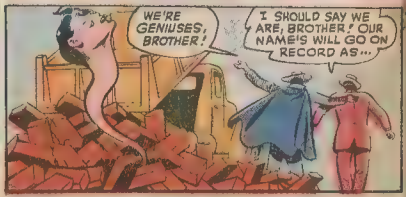
ONE SIDE! OUT OF MY WAY! PLASTIC MAN'S AFTER US!
YOU'RE TELLING US, BROTHER!
FASTER! FASTER!
MY POOR FAITHFUL PAL WOOZY! THOSE TWO VILLAINS ARE AFTER HIM ... TO HURT HIM, NO DOUBT!
HALT, BOTH OF YOU!
WE'VE BEEN SABOTAGED!
WHAT WERE YOU DOING TO MY GOOD FRIEND, WOOZY WINKS?
YOUR FRIEND? BUT BROTHER WINKS IS AN IMPORTANT AND INFLUENTIAL WORLD AGAINSTER!
WOOZY ONE OF YOUR CRACKPOT CROWD? RIDICULOUS!
IT'S TRUE! I GAVE BROTHER WINKS THE BLACK BRIEFCASE TO KEEP FOR US!
I MYSELF RECRUITED HIM! HE'S THE AGAINSTEST AGAINSTER WE EVER...
STOP THOSE ROTTEN LIES ABOUT ONE OF THE BRAVEST, MOST HONEST FRIENDS I EVER KNEW!
THIS WILL TEACH YOU TO INSULT WOOZY'S CHARACTER AND INTELLI-GENCE!

I'LL FOLLOW WOOZY... TELL HIM THAT HIS ENEMIES ARE OUT OF BUSINESS!
HE DOESN'T BELIEVE US, BROTHER!
NO, BROTHER! HE THINKS WE'RE LYING... THE ONLY TIME I'VE TOLD THE TRUTH SINCE I WAS A BOY!
THE ONLY TIME I EVER TOLD THE TRUTH! I DON'T SEE WHY HE SHOULD BE SO SUSPICIOUS.
YOU KNOW, BROTHER, THIS WORLD AGAINSTERS RACKET IS ABOUT BANKRUPT! I THINK WE OUGHT TO GO BACK TO CHICKEN-STEALING!
BUT PLASTIC MAN AND HIS PAL WOOZY MIGHT KEEP US FROM DOING THAT, TOO!
LET'S SNEAK AFTER THEM... DESTROY THEM BOTH WHEN THEY AREN'T LOOKING!
RIGHT, BROTHER! THEN WE CAN STOP BEING AGAINSTERS AND BE RESPECTABLE CHICKEN-THIEVES!
PUFF
PUFF
PUFF
I'VE RUN MYSELF DOWN TO A FLY-WEIGHT ESCAPING FROM PLAS!
IT HAUNTS ME! HE SAID HE'LL FIND THE GUY WITH THE BRIEF-CASE AND MAKE AN EXAMPLE OF HIM... AND PLAS ALWAYS KEEPS HIS PROMISES!
POOR WOOZY! HE'S PROBABLY WISHING FOR ME THIS MOMENT... WAITING FOR THE SIGHT OF ME TO BRING PEACE TO HIS TROUBLED SPIRIT!

I CAN'T DARE FACE HIM AGAIN!
WHEN I SEE HIM I'LL TELL HIM THAT HE STANDS FOR ALL THAT'S GOOD IN FRIENDSHIP! THAT SHOULD RID HIM OF THE HORROR HE MUST HAVE KNOWN AT THE HANDS OF THOSE NO GOOD LIARS!
AH, WOOZY, I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU! I WANTED TO TELL YOU THAT YOU'RE A REAL EXAMPLE..
EXAMPLE?
NO! NO! DON'T SPEAK OF EXAMPLES TO ME!
I DON'T GET IT!
KOOM!
I'LL GET THE BRIEFCASE... TAKE IT TO THE CHIEF MYSELF... SURRENDER AND ASK FOR A LIGHT SENTENCE!
COLLISION STORAGE
WOOZY MUST BE OFFENDED OR SOMETHING! HE DOESN'T SEEM TO WANT TO TALK TO ME!
LOOK, BROTHER! OUR VICTIM WITH HIS BACK TURNED!
A PERFECT SETUP, BROTHER!
I'LL WAIT UNTIL HIS GROUCH WEARS OFF! THEN WE'LL BE PALS AGAIN!

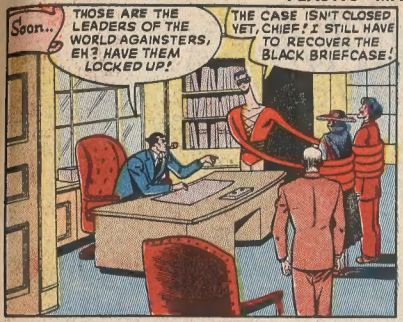
BRAVO FOR ME! HE'S SQUASHED!
LET'S FINISH THE JOB! BACK THAT TRUCK UP...
SNIP!
SPLAT!


CRASH!
SO, BROTHER, HE CAN NEVER SURVIVE SUCH A CATASTROPHE!


WE'RE GENIUSES, BROTHER!
I SHOULD SAY WE ARE, BROTHER! OUR NAME'S WILL GO ON RECORD AS...

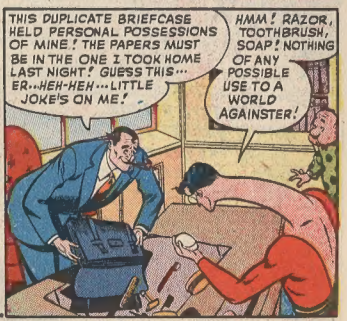
YOUR NAME'S WILL GO ON THE POLICE RECORD, YOU MEAN! AS I SAID ONCE BEFORE, YOU'RE UNDER ARREST!
CAN'T WE EVER GET RID OF HIM?

NO YOU DON'T!
YOU KNOW, BROTHER, WE COULD HAVE SAVED A LOT OF TIME BY GIVING OURSELVES UP THE DAY WE ORGANIZED THE WORLD AGAINSTERS!
THERE'S A LOT OF WISDOM IN WHAT YOU SAY, BROTHER!


Soon...
THOSE ARE THE LEADERS OF THE WORLD AGAINSTERS, EH? HAVE THEM LOCKED UP!
THE CASE ISN'T CLOSED YET, CHIEF! I STILL HAVE TO RECOVER THE BLACK BRIEFCASE!

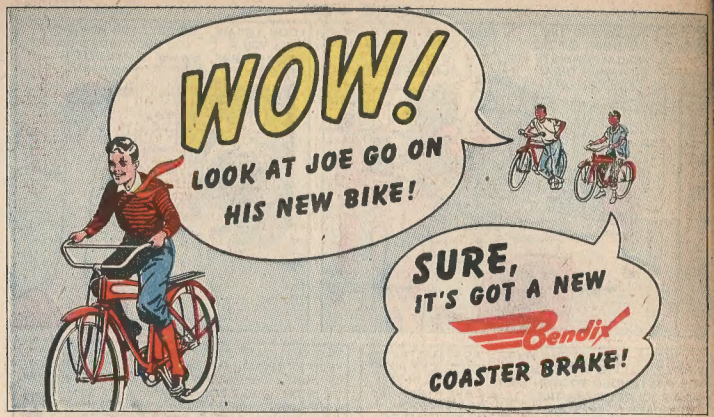
LOOK, LET ME TELL YOU A STORY! HERE, TAKE THIS...
WOOZY! YOU HERO! YOU SUCCEEDED WHERE I FAILED!

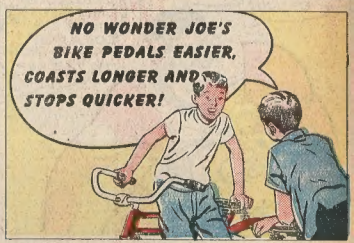
SO THOSE AGAINSTERS WERE PARTLY TELLING THE TRUTH! YOU PRETENDED TO JOIN THEM SO AS TO RECOVER THE BRIEFCASE! I'M PROUD OF YOU!
AS A MATTER OF FACT, I'VE JUST LOOKED IN THE CASE... AND THE AGAINSTERS BLUNDERED, AS USUAL! THEY THOUGHT THEY TOOK A CASE FULL OF SECRET PAPERS...


THIS DUPLICATE BRIEFCASE HELD PERSONAL POSSESSIONS OF MINE! THE PAPERS MUST BE IN THE ONE I TOOK HOME LAST NIGHT! GUESS THIS... ER...HEH-HEH... LITTLE JOKE'S ON ME!
HMM! RAZOR, TOOTHBRUSH, SOAP! NOTHING OF ANY POSSIBLE USE TO A WORLD AGAINSTER!

THANKS FOR RECOVERING MY PROPERTY, WOOZY! YOU DESERVE A LITTLE REWARD!
MAY I BE SO POLITE AS TO ACCEPT IT!

Later...
OKAY, WOOZY, THIS PAYS YOUR BILL! AND HERE, HAVE A SODA ON THE HOUSE!
WHO COULD POSSIBLY BE AGAINST THE WORLD ON A DAY LIKE THIS?
2AOO2





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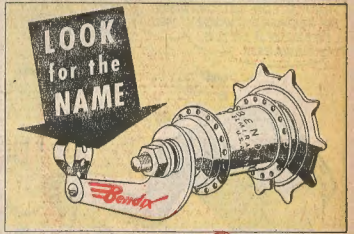

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